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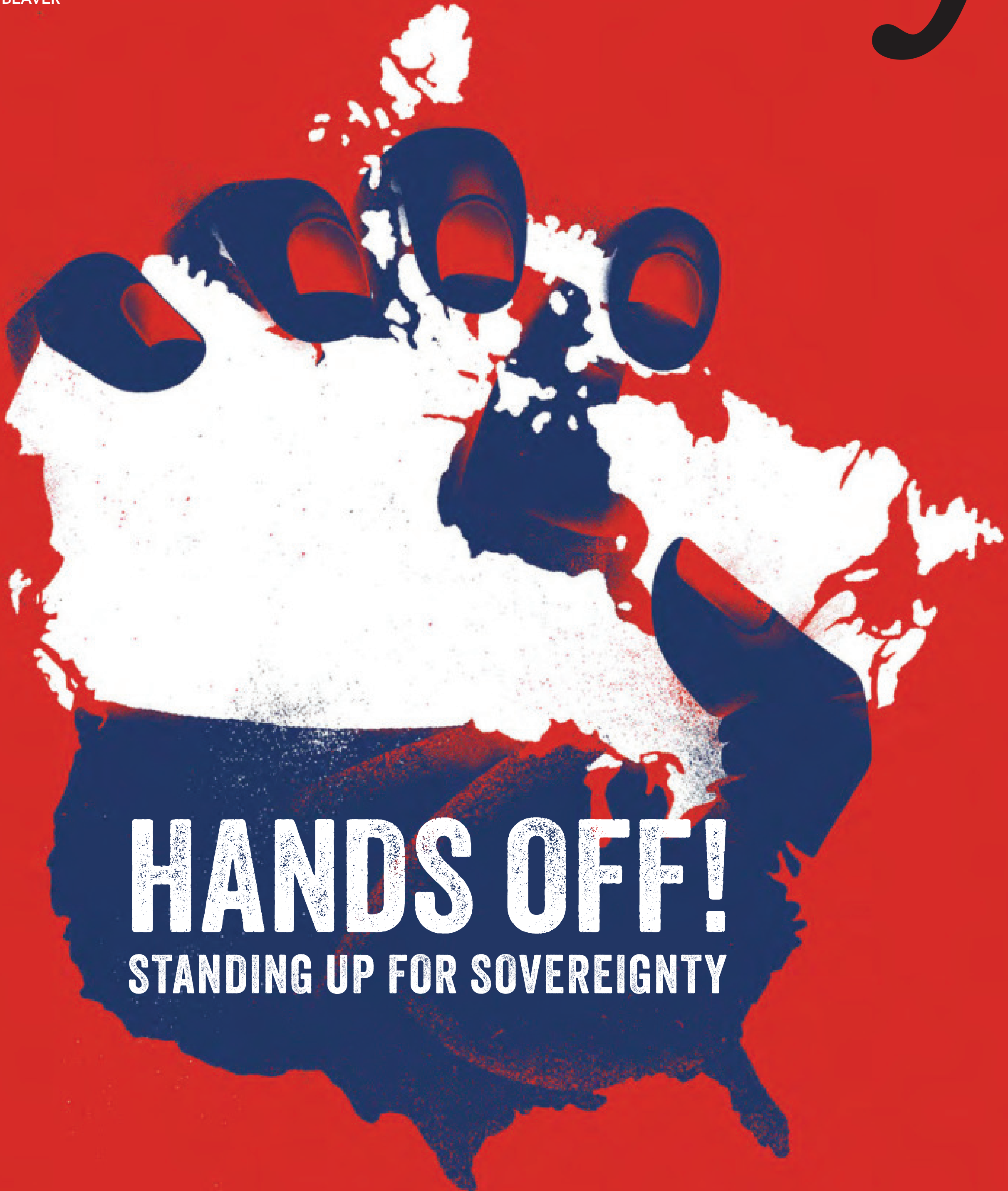

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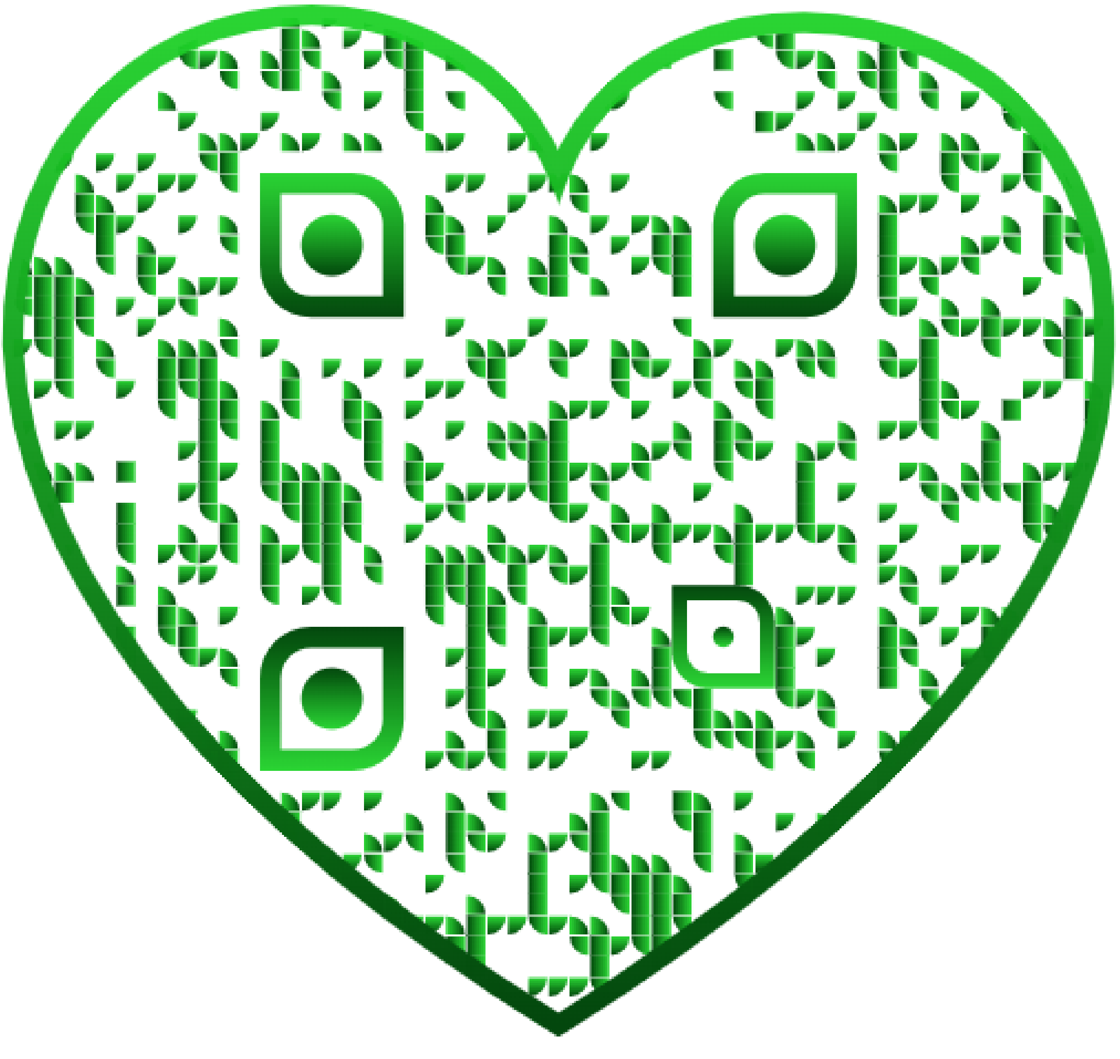

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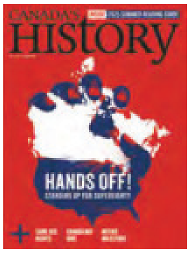
CANADA'S HISTORY
HANDS OFF!

On the cover

Illustrator Sébastien Thibault from Matane, Que., created this image representing America's perennial ambitions to annex Canada.

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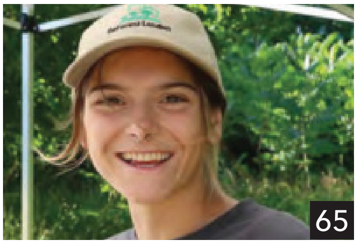
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COMING UP IN CANADA'S HISTORY

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The astonishing story behind the Vatican Ethnological Museum's collection of West Coast Potlatch regalia.

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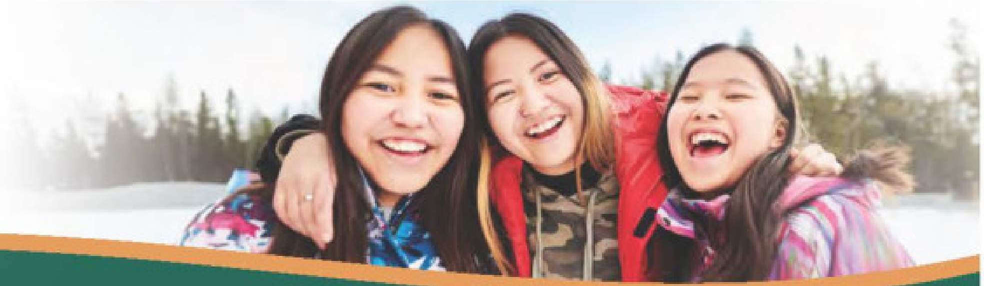

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July 23	Washington, DC

Shop CANADIAN
Look for these symbols throughout the store to make it easier to shop Canadian:
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Made in CANADA

Retailers across the country are helping make it easier to buy Canadian.

We see thee rise

Like so many of us, I'm spending extra time at the grocery store, checking labels to see where my food is coming from. I don't like grocery shopping, and any extra time devoted to this chore tends to feel like, well, a chore. But under our country's current circumstances, trying to buy Canadian — or at least non-American — actually feels somewhat empowering at a time when so much else feels out of my control.

Even better is knowing that I'm not alone in my actions or my emotions. I see others in my community peering at labels, hear them asking what the difference is between "made in Canada" and "product of Canada," and generally commiserating about the bizarre state of affairs between us and the U.S. How many of us know of friends or family who have cancelled travelling south of the border — even if it costs them? Witnessing Canadians voluntarily pulling together to defend our sovereignty fills me with pride.

It also makes me hopeful because, as Madelaine Drohan writes in "Friend or Foe?" we have been here before and we've always kept the forces of annexation at bay. Her thoughtful examination of centuries of American border aggression starts on page 20.

Two other features in this issue reflect on milestones that make us uniquely Canadian. "Equal under the Law" (page 28) guides us through one same-sex couple's fight to have the same benefits, rights and responsibilities as heterosexual couples. "Measuring Change," (page 36) meanwhile, looks at the switch to Celsius from Fahrenheit 50 years ago — a big step on this country's path to metric conversion, which, as writer Jamie Bradburn explains, never fully happened.

Finally, on a lighter note, find out how much you know about the true North strong and free with our Canada Day quiz "Eh? to Zed Trivia" on page 42. Don't want to mark up your magazine? You can go online and try your luck at canadashistory.ca/Eh2Zed — you could win a prize. Good luck, eh?

Jackie Kovacs

CONTRIBUTORS

Jamie Bradburn wrote "Measuring Change" and is a Toronto writer specializing in the stories that have shaped his city, province and country. Having grown up near the U.S. border, he is still adjusting to the metric system. His work has been published by the *Toronto Star*, *Spacing* and *Historica Canada*, and has won National Magazine and Heritage Toronto awards.

Madelaine Drohan wrote "Friend or Foe?" Drohan is a senior fellow at the Graduate School of Public and International Policy at the University of Ottawa and a former Canada correspondent for the *Economist*. During her long journalism career, she covered politics, economics and business in Africa, Asia, Canada and Europe. She is the author of the forthcoming book *He Did Not Conquer: Benjamin Franklin's Failure to Annex Canada*. Drohan lives in Ottawa.

Christopher Guly wrote "Equal under the Law." Born in Winnipeg, Guly is an Ottawa-based journalist and a long-time member of the Canadian Parliamentary Press Gallery. He has written and reported for a host of media outlets, including the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Guardian*, the BBC, the *Globe and Mail*, the *Ottawa Citizen* and the CBC. He is also a filmmaker whose latest documentary, *Coming Out in Politics*, broadcast in 2023 on OUTtv, streams on Amazon Prime and AppleTV+.

Nancy Payne wrote "Eh? to Zed Trivia." As editor of *Kayak*, the children's magazine published by Canada's History Society, she explores all kinds of interesting tidbits within each issue's theme. She is also a contributing editor at *Canada's History*, collecting ideas from all over the country to write about in both magazines. She lives in the country near Lindsay, Ont., with her journalist husband.

THE CANADIAN PRESS IMAGES/DON DENTON

Honouring a fallen hero

"Airborne Assault" (April-May 2025) was a very good article, but I thought it should be noted that Lieutenant-Colonel Jeff Nicklin was a star with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers football team before the war. After the war, the officers and men of the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion donated a trophy in his memory to be awarded to the Most Valuable (later Most Outstanding) Player in what became the Western Division of the Canadian Football League.

Ron Hanlin
Georgetown, Ont.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jeff Nicklin, seen here in January 1944, was a Winnipeg Blue Bomber from 1934 to 1940.

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Historical comfort

In these troubling times, with Canada under political assault from our southern neighbour, it's a great comfort to regularly receive my issue of *Canada's History*. I commend the entire team for publishing remarkable stories of Canada's historical legacy — which is not always perfect, but nonetheless admirable as one of the world's most lasting and successful democracies. We have accomplished so much as a country, with a strong national identity and so many fascinating stories to trumpet to the world. Your publication serves our country well in this period of global stress. Bravo.

Lawrence L. Herman
Toronto

McGee's words of wisdom

"The Orator of Confederation" (April-May 2025) is superbly timely. It also includes in the final paragraph the words to describe why we cherish Canada. In the closing paragraph, Wilson succinctly describes how Thomas D'Arcy McGee's caring and experience led him to beautifully articulate the value of this nation.

I am also happy that, as someone who was born in Manitoba but has lived mostly elsewhere, *Canada's History* is providing such important lessons.

Martin Ulrich
Ottawa

Jazzed about Peterson

Thank you for the article about Oscar Peterson, Canada's famous jazz pianist and composer ("Jazz Man," February-March 2025). There is a wonderful statue of him in Ottawa, outside Canada's National Arts Centre. Oscar is shown sitting on the bench of a stylized piano. There is space on the bench for a visitor to sit beside him. My husband and I have a photo of our young granddaughter sitting next to Canada's great jazz musician. Many pictures of the statue and its history can be found online, including a video of the ceremony when it was unveiled by Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip on June 30, 2010.

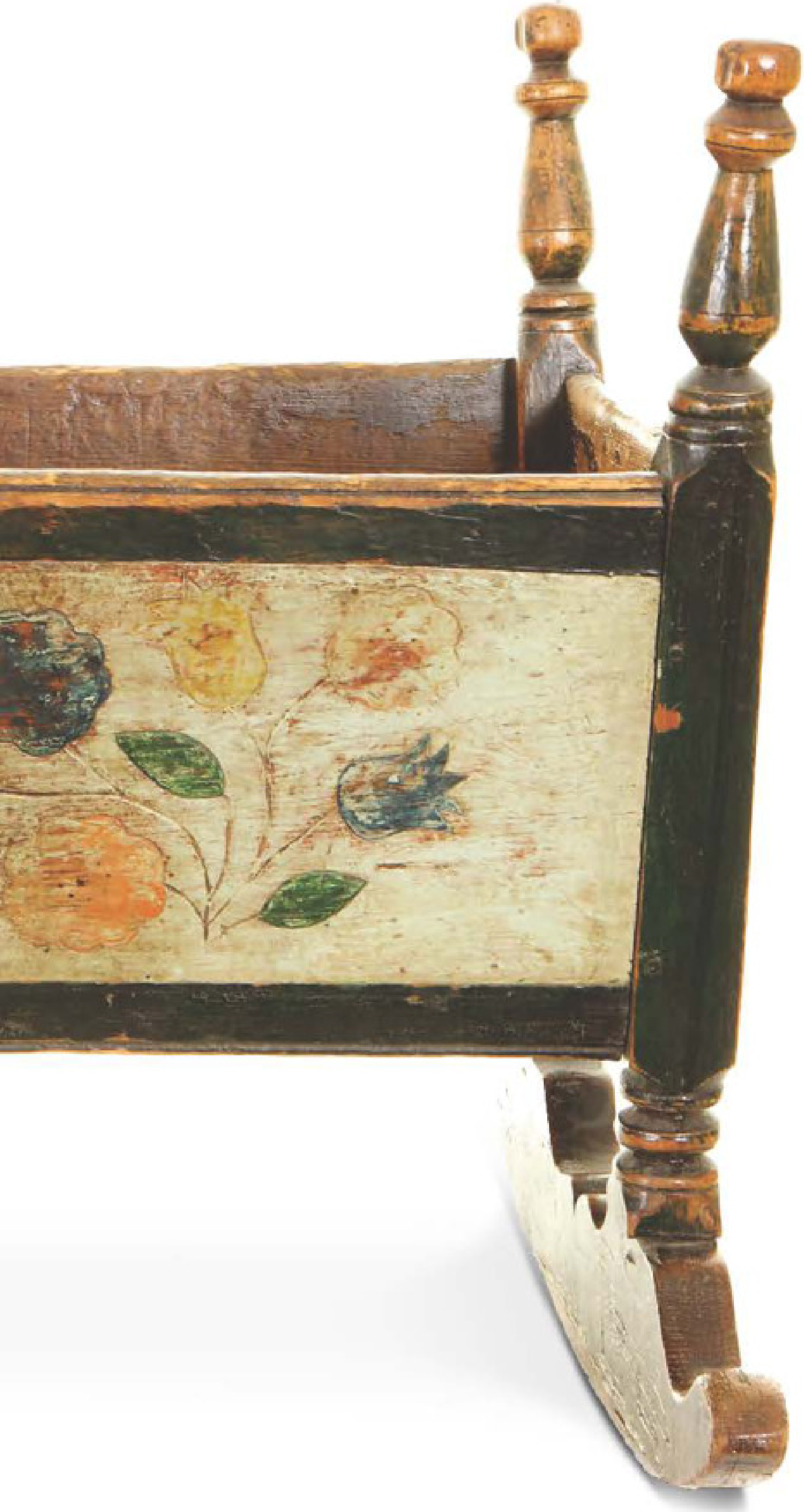
Marjorie Galbraith
Ottawa

Roadside rescue

I enjoyed the Saint-Louis-du-Ha! Ha! story (February-March 2025). I have a short story of my own encounter with the municipality. Around 1966, as a young Royal Canadian Navy sailor stationed in Shearwater, N.S., I decided to drive home to Ottawa in my 1959 (new to me) Volkswagen "bug." Part of the way home, my generator light came on. I pulled into a highway gas station with vehicle repair, and was told that the engine had to be removed to get to the starter. Well, that was a non-starter, so to speak, being a young and not-rich sailor. I drove on. Reaching Saint-Louis-du-Ha! Ha! later that day, I found a gas station that indicated Volkswagen repairs. I pulled in, discussed the problem and told the mechanic I did not have a lot of money and the engine-removal story. Not a problem, he said, engine removal would not be required. He removed the generator, undercut the commutator, replaced the brushes and charged me $15. I was on my way in no time and had no issue with the generator for the remaining life of the car. St. Louis-du-Ha! Ha! has forever remained a bright spot for me.

Gary King
Ottawa

Email comments to editors@CanadasHistory.ca or write to *Canada's History*, Bryce Hall Main Floor, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9 Canada. Letters may be edited for length and style.



CHÂTEAU RAMEZAY – HISTORIC SITE AND MUSEUM OF MONTRÉAL

OBJECT OF INTEREST

Sleeping beauty

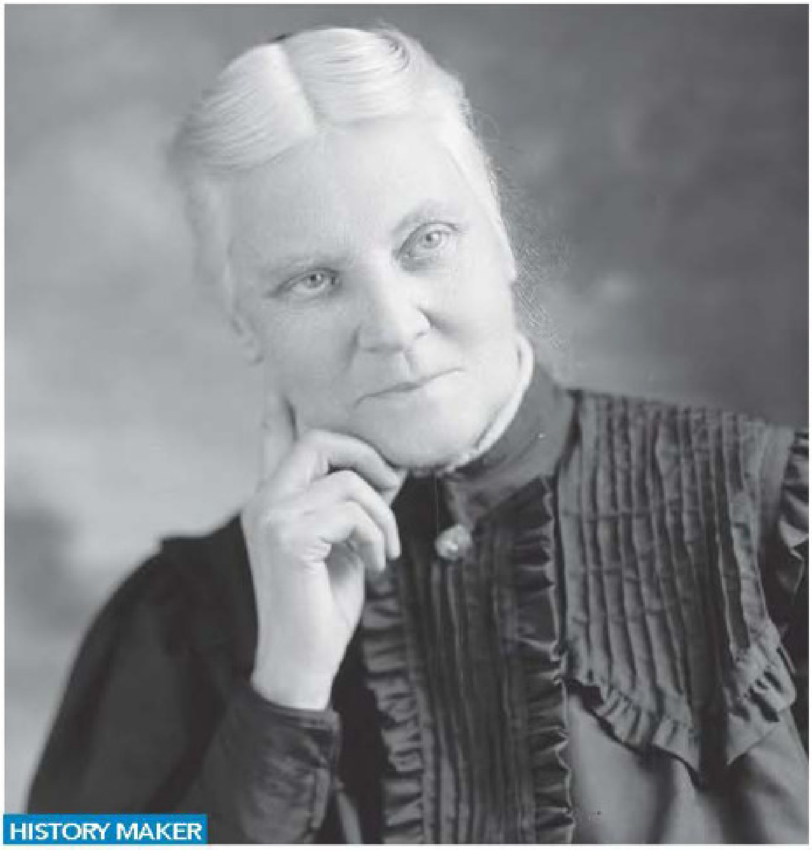
A fine piece of furniture kept baby safe and warm.

In the eighteenth century, women gave birth at home with the help of a midwife and newborns were quickly baptized. Breastfed until they were about 14 months old, babies slept in a piece of furniture common to all families: a wooden cradle. Some cradles were simple, rustic chests, while others were fine pieces of carpentry decorated with geometric patterns.

The cradle was usually found in the common room or in the parents' bedroom, often the only room in the house with a door that closed. They were rarely painted, which makes this one – with its hand-turned spindles – an exceptional piece. Made of pine and cherry wood, it was decorated with flowers painted on a beige background by the Mohawks of Sault-Saint-Louis. This mission was founded by the Jesuits in 1669 near Prairie-de-la-Madeleine (Kahnawà:ke) and was one of three Mohawk communities established in the Montreal area in the late 1660s.

– Annick Desmarais

This article originally appeared in *Cinquante merveilles de nos musées: les plus beaux trésors de la francophonie canadienne*. The special-interest publication was part of Projet Portage, a five-year Canada's History Society initiative to connect history lovers in French and English Canada, generously supported by the Molson Foundation.



Left: Jennett "Jennie" Trout overcame enormous barriers to realize her dream of becoming a medical doctor. Above: The 1888 graduating class of Women's Medical College in Kingston, Ont.

HISTORY MAKER

The doctor is in

Jennie Trout broke barriers to become Canada's first female physician.

As the academic year wraps up, about 3,000 students are graduating from Canadian medical schools – and nearly two-thirds of them are women. Jennett "Jennie" Kidd Trout, who became Canada's first licensed female doctor 150 years ago, would no doubt be thunderstruck. For Dr. Trout, realizing her dream of being a doctor was a difficult journey requiring remarkable persistence and determination.

Born in Kelso, Scotland, in 1841, Trout moved to the Stratford, Ont., area (then Canada West) with her family, the Gowanlocks, when she was six. Soon after her marriage in 1865, Trout began to suffer from what was termed a "nervous disorder," which responded in part to electrotherapy – a new field then used to treat uterine and breast disorders, mental illness and fatigue, among other conditions. That experience inspired her to become a doctor.

Trout, along with Dr. Emily Stowe, a fellow Canadian who had earned her medical degree in New York in 1867, fought for several years to attend the Toronto School of Medicine, which only admitted male students. In 1871, both were finally accepted into the one-year qualifying course, where they endured much harassment from some staff and students.

After passing her courses in Toronto, Trout headed to the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania because no Canadian medical schools took female students. She graduated with her medical degree in 1875, and then passed the exams from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, becoming the first woman licensed to practise medicine in Canada.

The newly qualified Dr. Trout promptly opened a clinic in Toronto with Dr. Emily Amelia Tefft, specializing in treatments for women. The clinic was so popular that they soon opened other clinics in Hamilton and Brantford, Ont.. When she retired from her practice in 1882 due to declining health, Dr. Trout remained a fierce advocate for women in medicine, helping to establish the Women's Medical College in Kingston, Ont., in 1883.

In June, in a Hamilton ceremony, Dr. Trout will be inducted into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame in London, Ont. – a move that Dr. Tina Whitty, past president of the Canadian Women in Medicine board of directors, says she's thrilled to celebrate. "It's a testament," Dr. Whitty says, "to her pioneering spirit and the legacy she has created for Canadian women in medicine." – *Bonnie Schiedel*

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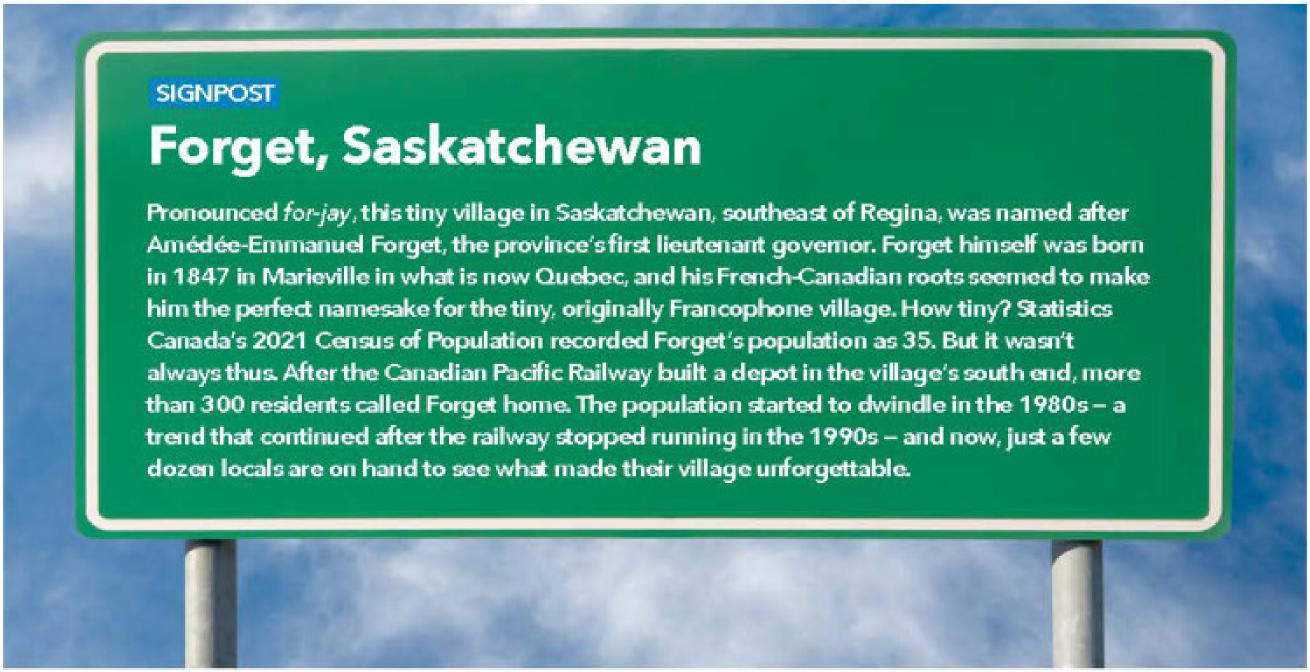


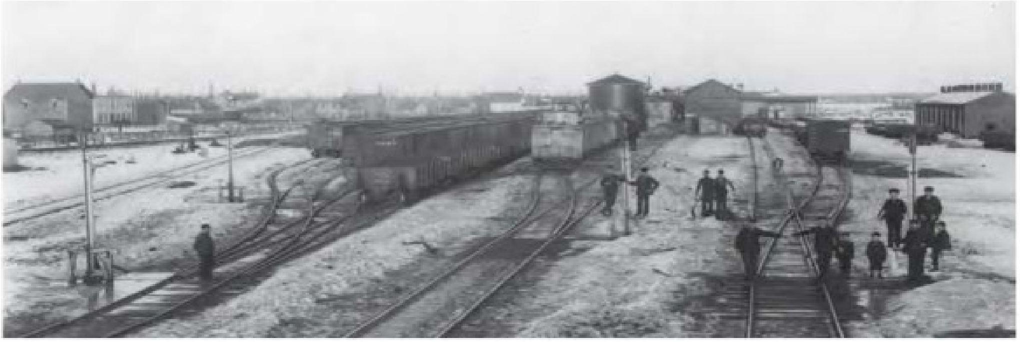
SIGNPOST

Forget, Saskatchewan

Pronounced *for-jay*, this tiny village in Saskatchewan, southeast of Regina, was named after Amédée-Emmanuel Forget, the province's first lieutenant governor. Forget himself was born in 1847 in Marieville in what is now Quebec, and his French-Canadian roots seemed to make him the perfect namesake for the tiny, originally Francophone village. How tiny? Statistics Canada's 2021 Census of Population recorded Forget's population as 35. But it wasn't always thus. After the Canadian Pacific Railway built a depot in the village's south end, more than 300 residents called Forget home. The population started to dwindle in the 1980s – a trend that continued after the railway stopped running in the 1990s – and now, just a few dozen locals are on hand to see what made their village unforgettable.

Hoping for a spike in interest

A northwestern Ontario community is staking its claim in railroad lore.



On the lower right of this 1888 photograph, two men hold hands above the spot where the first sod was turned for the CPR on June 1, 1875.

You may have heard of "the last spike" – the final iron nail driven into the track of the Canadian Pacific Railway in November 1885, marking the completion of the railway that was to unite Canada. But the so-called first spike? Not so much.

But 150 years ago, the ceremonial sod-turning on the banks of the Kaministiquia River in the District of Thunder Bay, Ont., was big news. The *Globe* newspaper reported that the breaking of the ground on June 1, 1875 would be "long remembered in the annals of the District of Thunder Bay, as well as throughout the whole Dominion of Canada." The paper also quoted Judge Decatur Van Norman, presiding over the occasion, as saying "Canada has through their representatives determined to span this continent with a railway, so that an emigrant with his family seeking a new home in this new world … may with celerity, safety and certainty examine the country from Cape Breton in Nova Scotia to Vancouver's Island in British Columbia."

Van Norman's speech is one of three that a group of Thunder Bay history buffs will redeliver on June 1 this year as they stage a fully costumed re-enactment of that groundbreaking ceremony. "It's a forgotten national event," says Stefan Huzan, co-ordinator of the 2025 re-enactment. "It was a big deal. Confederation was built on the promise of the railroad and this was the first step in delivering that promise."

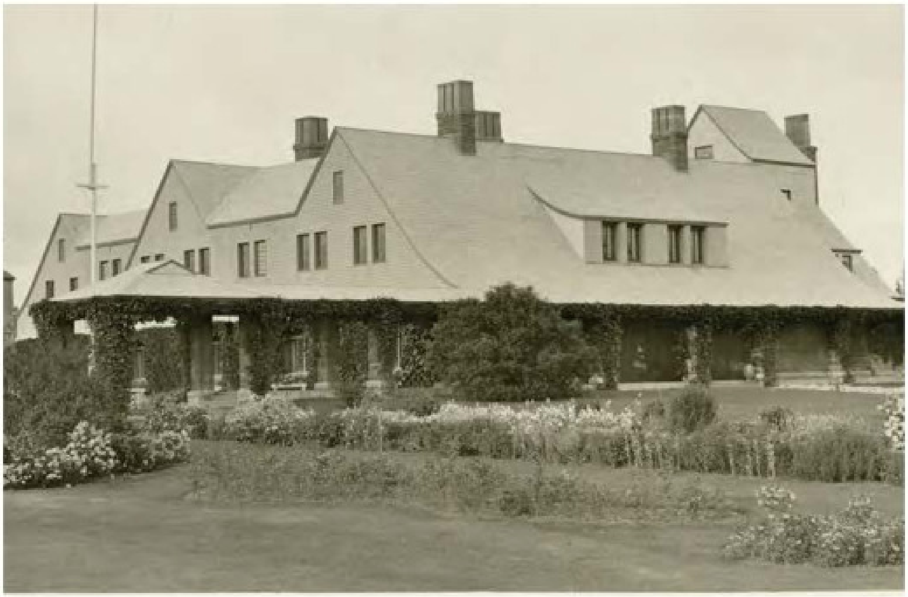
The re-enactment is not the first celebration of this key moment: Thunder Bay last commemorated the event on its 100th anniversary in 1975 and erected a first-spike sign in 2012. The original event attracted more than 500 men and women, according to the account in the *Globe*, a number that Huzan hopes the re-enactment will attract as well to hammer home the importance of a pivotal moment in Canadian history.

TOP: ISTOCK; BOTTOM: J.E. COOKE

Fame, fortune and fresh air

Wealthy getaways of yesteryear. *by Frank B. Edwards*

In a bid to get away from the summer heat of their workaday worlds, the rich and famous have been escaping to magnificent waterfront retreats in Eastern Canada for more than 150 years. These five heritage "cottages" harken back to an era of eclectic architecture driven by wealth and idyllic dreams.



Covenhoven, Ministers Island, New Brunswick

Pedigree: Industrialist William Cornelius Van Horne (1843-1915), builder of Canada's first transcontinental railroad

Constructed: 1890–1911

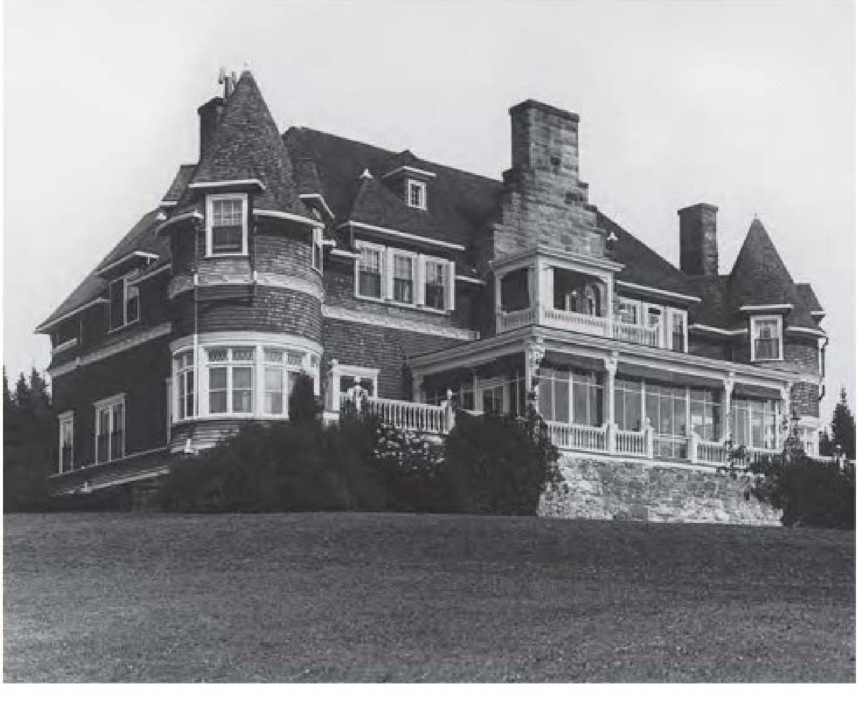
Set atop a 280-hectare island on Passamaquoddy Bay, the airy 50-room sandstone summer home features 17 bedrooms, art studios, a music room and a veranda overlooking a circular limestone bathhouse tower that leads to a tidal water pool. Open to the public.

Beinn Bhreagh Hall, Baddeck, Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia

Pedigree: Scientist Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922), inventor of the telephone

Constructed: 1892-1893

The 600-acre estate was the centre for much of Bell's research into aviation, hydrofoils and animal husbandry, and employed many local residents. Bell's wife, Mabel, designed 12 hectares of gardens around the ornate shingled Queen Anne Revival cottage that rises high above Bras d'Or Lake. The 37-room residence includes 11 bedrooms, 17 fireplaces and a sprawling veranda flanked by turrets. Closed to the public.



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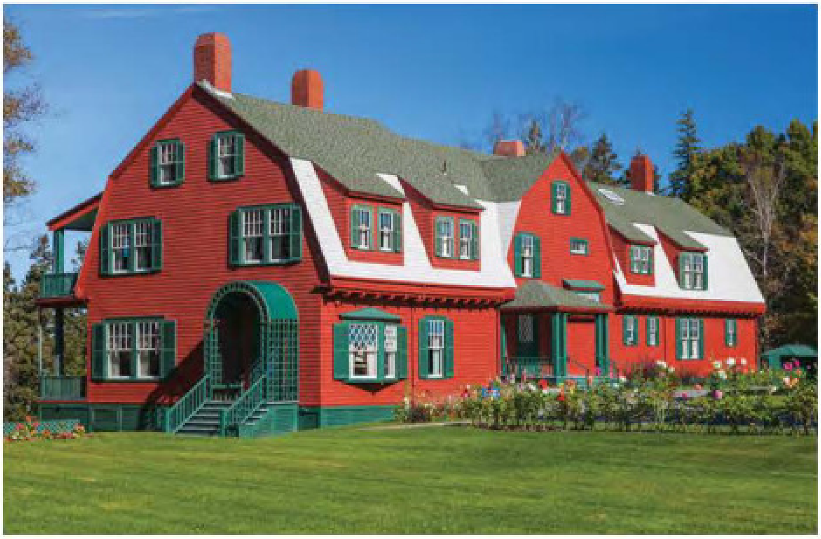
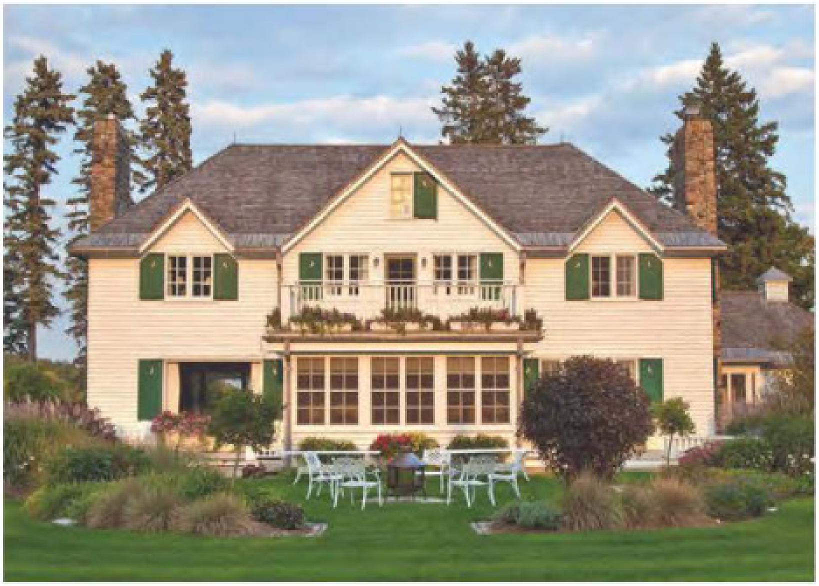
Roosevelt Cottage, Campobello Island, New Brunswick

Pedigree: U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945)

Constructed: 1897

Given as a wedding present to FDR and his wife, Eleanor, in 1908, this red-shingled summer house resembles a series of barns strung together to accommodate its 34 rooms (including 18 bedrooms). The future president seldom visited after his 1921 bout with polio, but Eleanor Roosevelt summered here until 1952. Open to the public.





Prime Minister's Cottage, Harrington Lake, Gatineau Park, Quebec

Pedigree: Official summer residence for Canadian Prime Ministers since 1959

Constructed: 1925

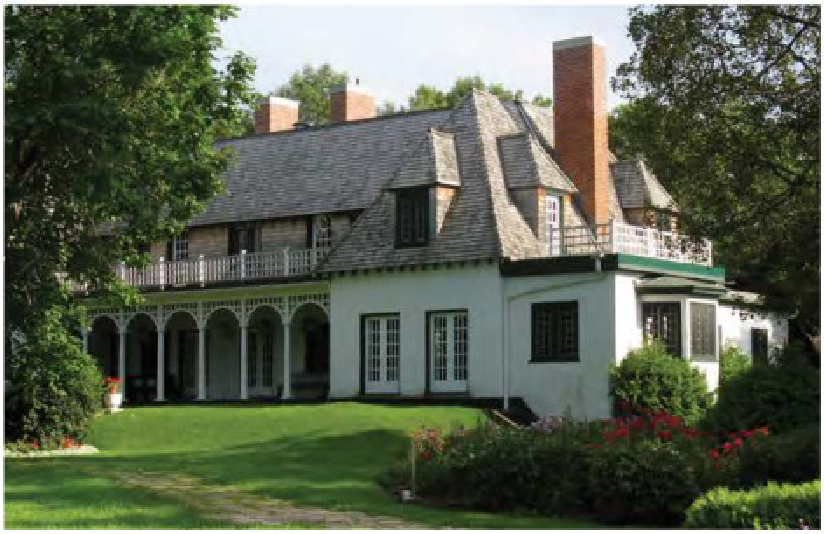
Prime Minister John Diefenbaker made this Colonial Revival clapboard farmhouse an official summer residence in 1959. Typical of the region's grand cottages, the 16-room home was crafted with local timber by a lumber baron on a 1,200-hectare forest retreat that eventually became part of the National Capital Region's Gatineau Park. Closed to the public.

Leacock House, Lake Couchiching, Orillia, Ontario

Pedigree: Author Stephen Leacock (1869-1944), humorist and economist

Constructed: 1928

Leacock built this 19-room Arts and Crafts summer home and a two-storey boathouse on lakeside farmland. The white stucco house – now a museum and archives – features several second-floor balconies with views of Old Brewery Bay and the four-hectare grounds. Open to the public.



TOP: ROOSEVELT CAMPOBELLO INTERNATIONAL PARK; CENTRE: COURTESY NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION; BOTTOM: WIKIPEDIA/JCART1534

Little pie from the prairies

This sweet tradition boasts practical pantry roots.

Canadian summer tastes like pie. Fresh blueberry with ice cream, mile-high lemon meringues and oozing apple pies dominate dessert tables at BBQs and picnics across the country. But in the Prairies, there's flapper pie.

Named in the 1920s during the era of flapper girls and bob haircuts, this sweet treat is a cream pie with a graham-crumb base infused with a dash of cinnamon, a vanilla custard filling and a fluffy layer of meringue (the taller, the better). The dessert is beloved in the Prairies, and while it has borne the name "forgotten pie" in recent years, flapper pie has been a staple for generations of Prairie families, alongside greats like lemon meringue and coconut cream.

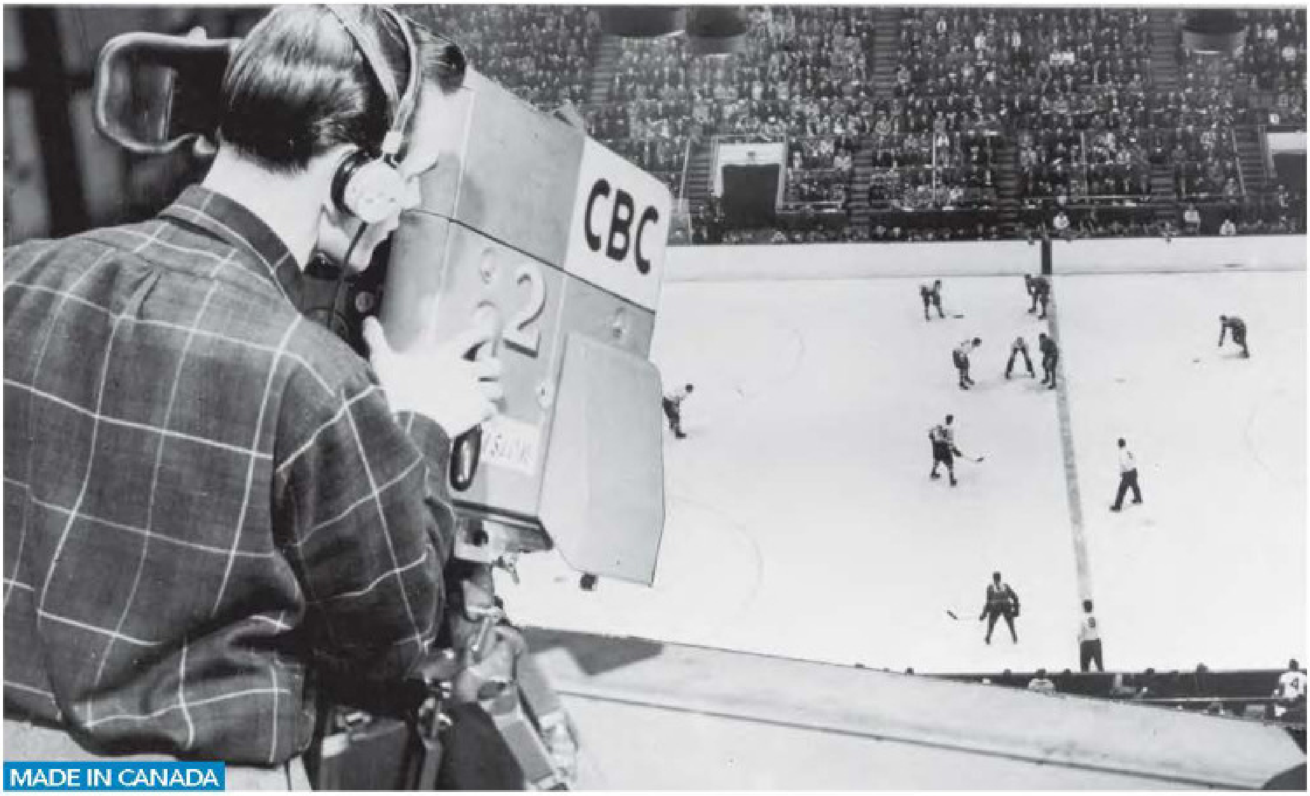
Pie lovers have Sylvester Graham to thank for the creation of these three creamy delights. The Connecticut-born Presbyterian minister invented graham crackers as a diet food in the mid-19th century. Once the National Biscuit Company (now Nabisco) started manufacturing graham crackers in the early 1900s, however, the company packaged the product in boxes that typically included pie recipes. The recipes tended to be simple with affordable ingredients, and across North America, families began using graham crumbs for their pie crusts.

In the 1920s, Prairie newspapers like the *Edmonton Journal* started running graham cracker ads featuring flapper pie. By the 1930s, the dessert had skyrocketed in popularity because Depression-era homemakers could spare the inexpensive pantry staples.

These days, you can find flapper pie in diners across the Prairies or at community bake sales. For true pie in the sky, head to the Blackfoot Diner in Calgary. This 24-hour venue has been serving the sweet treat since 1956, and they serve it really tall – the way it was intended. – *Gabby Peyton*

Want to try flapper pie for yourself? Head to **CanadasHistory.ca/Flapperpie** for the recipe.

GABBY PEYTON



MADE IN CANADA

Look again

Our favourite game, the CBC and the birth of the instant-replay revolution.

It's hard to imagine watching the Stanley Cup playoffs without instant replay. That's not surprising: the technology that allows multiple and frame-by-frame reviews of any given play in professional sports had its beginnings 70 years ago, thanks to an initiative from George Retzlaff, then the producer of *Hockey Night in Canada* (*HNIC*).

Born in Germany in 1922, Retzlaff was three when his family immigrated to Canada and settled in Winnipeg. After his father lost his job during the Depression, Retzlaff left school to find work, eventually landing a job at radio station CJRC Winnipeg as a control room operator for sports broadcasts and then later at CBC radio.

In 1951, CBC Toronto recruited Retzlaff to learn how to use new TV broadcasting technology at Ryerson Institute of Technology (now Toronto Metropolitan University). Two years later, he started working for *HNIC* as a cameraman and a live-telecast camera switcher. Before the end of the season, he was promoted to producer and director.

George Retzlaff experimented with early TV technology.

In 1955, three years after the NHL's TV broadcast debut, Retzlaff realized that TV provided a limited experience of the big moments for the audience watching at home. Using a newly invented hot processor, which could develop film in 30 seconds, Retzlaff was able to replay a goal during breaks before the game ended. The technology was not "instant," however, and could best be used for highlights of the games.

The achievement didn't gain popularity. MacLaren Advertising agency, which dominated most of the programming on TV in Canada at the time, had not been informed of Retzlaff's trick and did not want the Toronto broadcast to be different from the one in Montreal, where they did not have the necessary technology. Retzlaff never replayed it.

It would be another eight years before Tony Verna, a CBS sports director, created a more popular version of instant replay using videotape machines for an Army-Navy football game in Philadelphia.

– Aadya Arora

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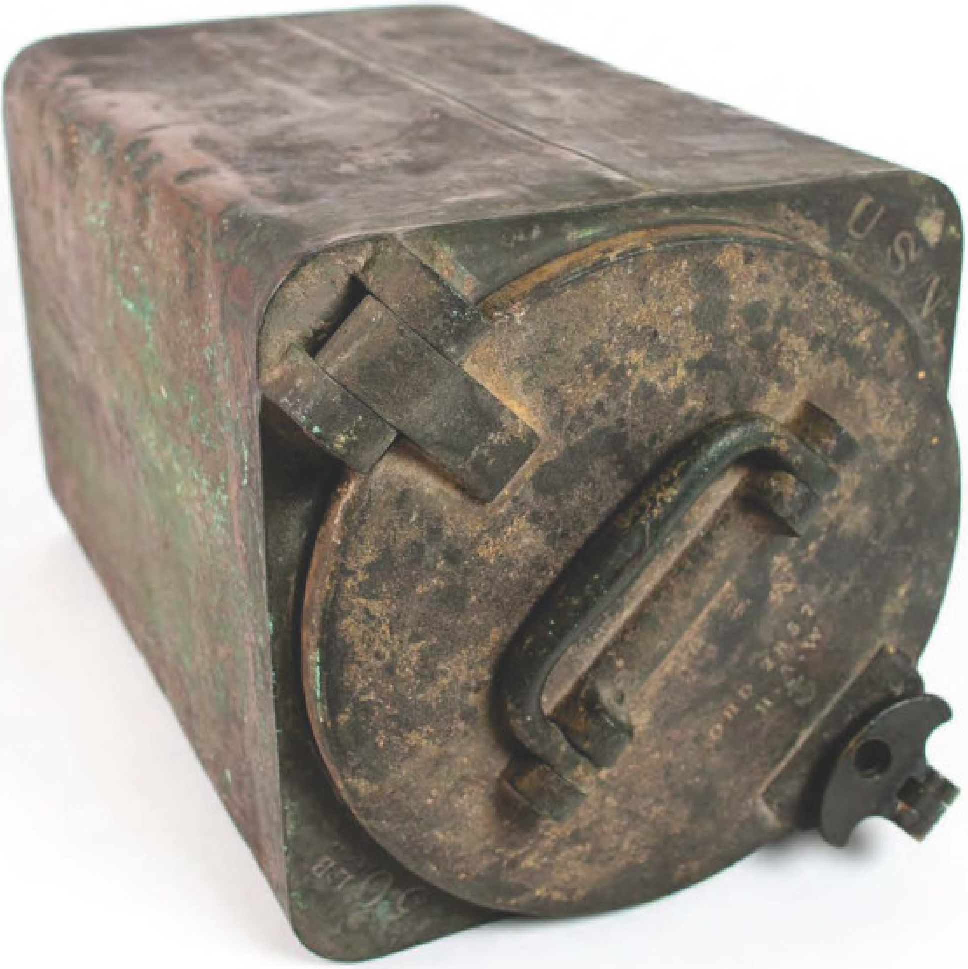


Powder room

Tales and Treasures from the rich legacy of the Hudson's Bay Company

Heavy metal canisters, or tanks, were used to safely store gunpowder in ships' magazines. Often made from non-sparking metals such as bronze and copper, they featured gasketed lids to protect the powder from moisture.

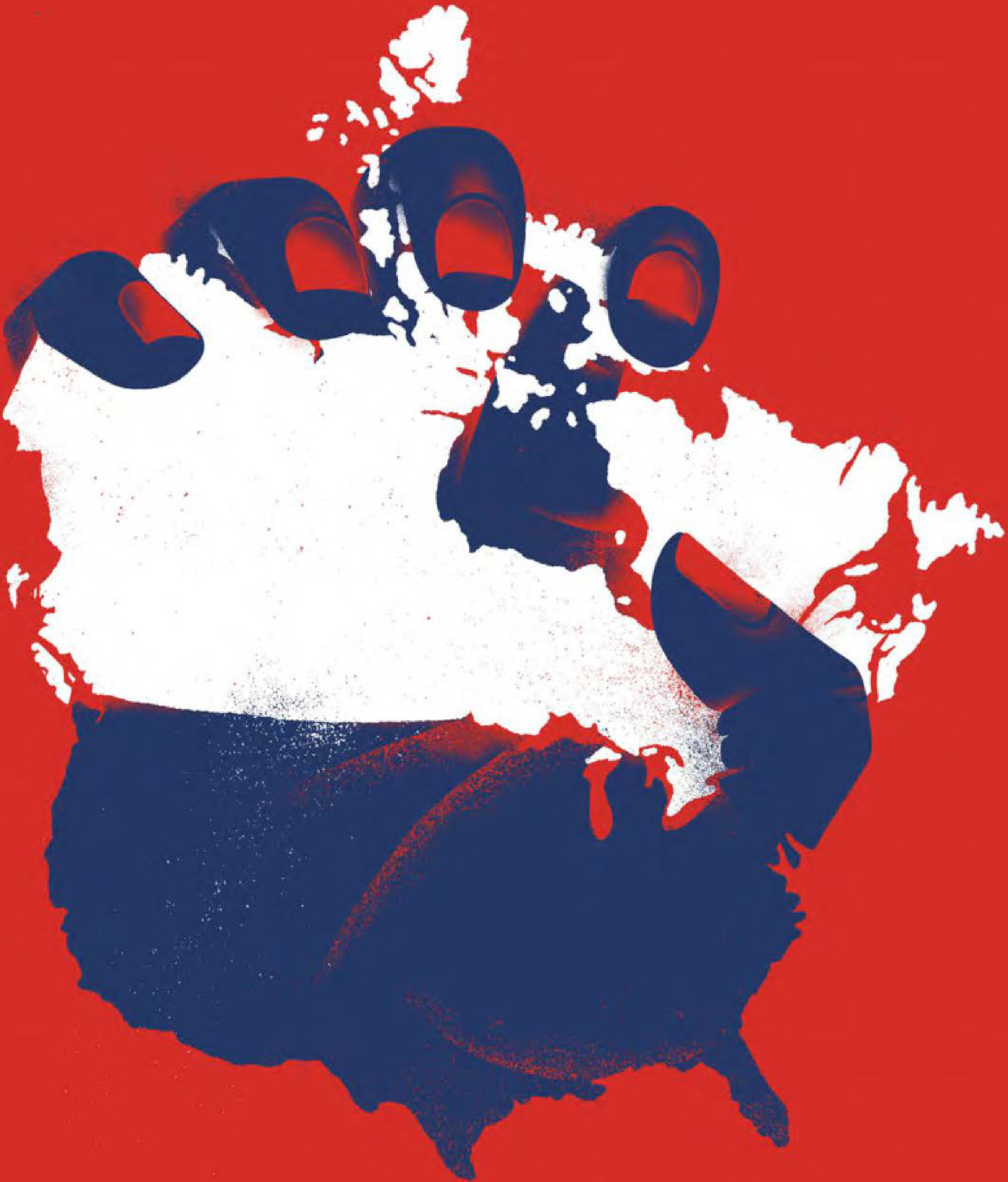
The markings on this powder tank provide a lot of clues regarding its origin and purpose. "USN" stands for United States Navy, while "ORD 1857 H.A.W." and the anchor symbol comprise the ordnance inspection stamp. H.A.W. was the mark of Henry Augustus Wise, a U.S. naval officer from 1834 to 1869 who was assigned to oversee the foundries that produced naval ordnance. The number 1857 marks the year this tank design was issued, and the weight capacity of 50 pounds (about 23 kilograms) is also indicated on the lid.

This powder tank was donated to the HBC Museum Collection by Charles Hunt French, a long-serving HBC employee who rose through the ranks from general service in 1891 to become fur trade commissioner in 1930. He spent much of his later career in Victoria and Vancouver as district manager, and in the 1920s he was heavily involved in obtaining items for the collection. *— Amelia Fay, curator of anthropology and the HBC Collection at the Manitoba Museum*

ARTIFACT FROM THE MANITOBA MUSEUM (HBC 1400) /
PHOTO BY ANDREW WORKMAN

HUDSON'S BAY

The Beaver magazine was originally founded as a Hudson's Bay Company publication in 1920. To read stories from past issues, go to **CanadasHistoryArchive.ca**. To explore the history of the Hudson's Bay Company, follow HBC's X and Instagram feeds at **@HBCHeritage.**



FRIEND OR FOE?

American annexation threats date back to colonial times – but Canadians have resisted being “conquered into liberty.”

by Madelaine Drohan

illustrated by Sébastien Thibault

"The Unanimous Voice of the Continent is Canada must be ours, Quebec must be taken."

So declared John Adams, a future American founding father, in a February 1776 letter to James Warren, a fellow rebel from Massachusetts. At the time, an army from the American colonies occupied Montreal and Trois-Rivières and was laying siege to Quebec City. If they captured Quebec City, the seat of power in what was then a British colony, the rebels would be well on their way to satisfying a desire that the English in the Thirteen Colonies had held since their forebears first set foot in North America — control of the continent.

Adams did not realize when he wrote his letter that the nascent American republic's attempt to liberate Canada from Britain was already all but lost. A desperate attack on Quebec City during a snowstorm on December 31, 1775, had failed miserably. The senior rebel general, Richard Montgomery, was mown down by grapeshot, causing his men to flee. His second-in-command, Benedict Arnold, was wounded while leading a separate attack. More than 300 of Arnold's men were captured by the defending force of British regulars and French and English Canadians. The remaining American troops, poorly clothed for the harsh northern winter and riven with smallpox, held out until spring. The appearance on May 6 of British warships on the St. Lawrence River sent them scurrying for home, leaving food, weapons and wounded comrades behind.

It was not the first time, nor the last, that residents of the Thirteen Colonies sought to conquer Canada, a vaguely defined territory that first appeared on European maps in the mid-1500s. Its borders expanded and contracted depending on who was drawing the map and when, but the central core remained the area along the St. Lawrence River between Quebec City and Montreal.

Ever since France had begun sending colonists to Canada in the early 1600s to build New France, those colonists had come into conflict with the English settlers of the Thirteen Colonies — now the American eastern seaboard states of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Two centuries of bloody warfare, of attack and counterattack, of burned settlements and slaughtered settlers ensued, continuing — after a slight pause — even after Canada passed from France to Britain in 1763. Both sides enlisted the First Nations as allies, exploiting pre-existing rivalries and creating new ones. The fighting finally ground to a halt after the War of 1812, leaving the two sides wary of each other. Planning for another American invasion continued on both sides of the border right up to the eve of the Second World War.

Canadians who have grown used to the relative calm of bilateral relations since then might be surprised by this history of antagonism. Several generations of politicians have assured us the Americans are our greatest friends and allies and reminded us that the two countries share the longest undefended border in the world. Lulled by this refrain, Canadians have been able to ignore the existential threat of living beside the more populous, powerful and periodically expansionist United States. The repeated threats by U.S. President Donald Trump to make Canada the 51st state brought this collective delusion to an abrupt end.

To prepare for an uncertain future, Canadians should look at past efforts by our southern neighbours to conquer Canada. There are lessons to be learned. Serious attempts fall into three overlapping categories: those inspired by global imperial rivalries; those motivated by the English colonists' desire for more territory; and those where American leaders wanted to pursue what they regarded as their manifest destiny to occupy the continent and control the hemisphere.

In the earliest attacks, taking territory in North America was part of a larger, global conflict involving multiple players and places. European inhabitants generally identified as either English or French and followed the lead set in London or Versailles. If England and France were at war, so too were their colonists in North America.

The first recorded strike against French colonists occured in 1613, when a ship from the English colony of Virginia fired on a small group of men trying to build a settlement at St. Sauveur in what is now Maine. Each group brandished a royal charter from its respective king to back their conflicting claims to what were Indigenous lands. Neither recognized the legitimacy of the other's claim. The Virginians captured the French, but eventually let them go with a warning that the entire East Coast, with its rich fisheries and fur trade, belonged to the English king.

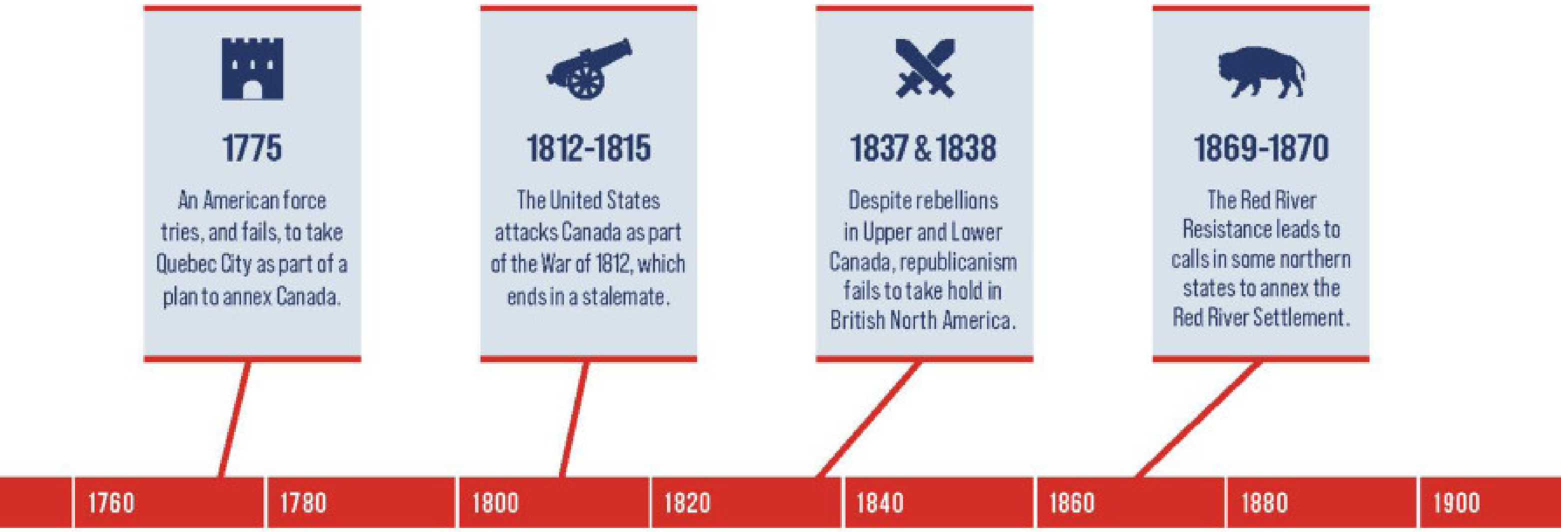
The French regime in Canada could have ended in 1629 when an expedition led by British privateers David, Lewis and Thomas Kirke captured Quebec City and its founder, Samuel de Champlain. But King Charles I of England was in financial difficulties. The King decided in 1632 to hand back the captured territory in exchange for the second half of the dowry that the French King Louis XIII had promised when Charles wed his sister, Princess Henrietta Maria.

Determined assaults followed in 1690 and 1711, largely driven by English colonists who had grown weary of the brutal and bloody raids on frontier settlements in New York and Massachusetts by the French and their First Nations allies. William Phips, a future governor of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, sailed up the St. Lawrence River in 1690 intent on taking Quebec City. With him were 2,000 Massachusetts militia. He failed, but managed to capture Port Royal, a French settlement on the Bay of Fundy. A far larger operation in 1711, involving an estimated 4,000 British soldiers, sailors and colonial militia, ended in disaster when a storm drove the ships onto the rocks near Anticosti Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, killing more than 800. The English admiral of the fleet called off the attack and sailed for home.

English colonists registered a partial success in 1745, when a combined force of about 4,000 men from Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire took the French Fortress of Louisbourg on Cape Breton Island. Louisbourg was an important prize. It sat at the mouth of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, guarding the gateway to Canada, which would have been the next target. William Shirley, the governor of Massachusetts, had told his superiors in London that "reducing," or capturing, Louisbourg would cut off French navigation to Canada and "would probably in a little time be attended with an easy Reduction of that Country." Capturing Canada, said Shirley, "would give his Majesty's subjects the whole Furr Trade, now chiefly in the possession of the French of Canada, and render 'em Masters of an entire Territory of about eighteen hundred miles extent upon the Sea Coast (reckoning from Georgia to Newfoundland inclusive)." He had to put his dream on hold when Britain handed Louisbourg back to France in a 1748 peace treaty.

The final act in the imperial struggle over Canada came during the Seven Years' War, a global conflict involving five European countries and their overseas colonies. In 1760, a British-colonial force captured Montreal, making the demise of New France all but inevitable. Quebec City had fallen the year before at the famous Battle of the Plains of Abraham. At the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1763, France left North America with some relief. Its chief negotiator, Étienne François, duc de Choiseul, told Britain from the start of the peace talks it could have Canada — France preferred to keep the sugar-rich Caribbean island of Guadeloupe. Official France agreed with the writer Voltaire's assessment that the northern colony was nothing more than "*quelques arpents de neige*" — a few acres of snow.

NOTABLE EVENTS IN CANADA-U.S. RELATIONS



1775

An American force tries, and fails, to take Quebec City as part of a plan to annex Canada.

1812-1815

The United States attacks Canada as part of the War of 1812, which ends in a stalemate.

1837 & 1838

Despite rebellions in Upper and Lower Canada, republicanism fails to take hold in British North America.

1869-1870

The Red River Resistance leads to calls in some northern states to annex the Red River Settlement.

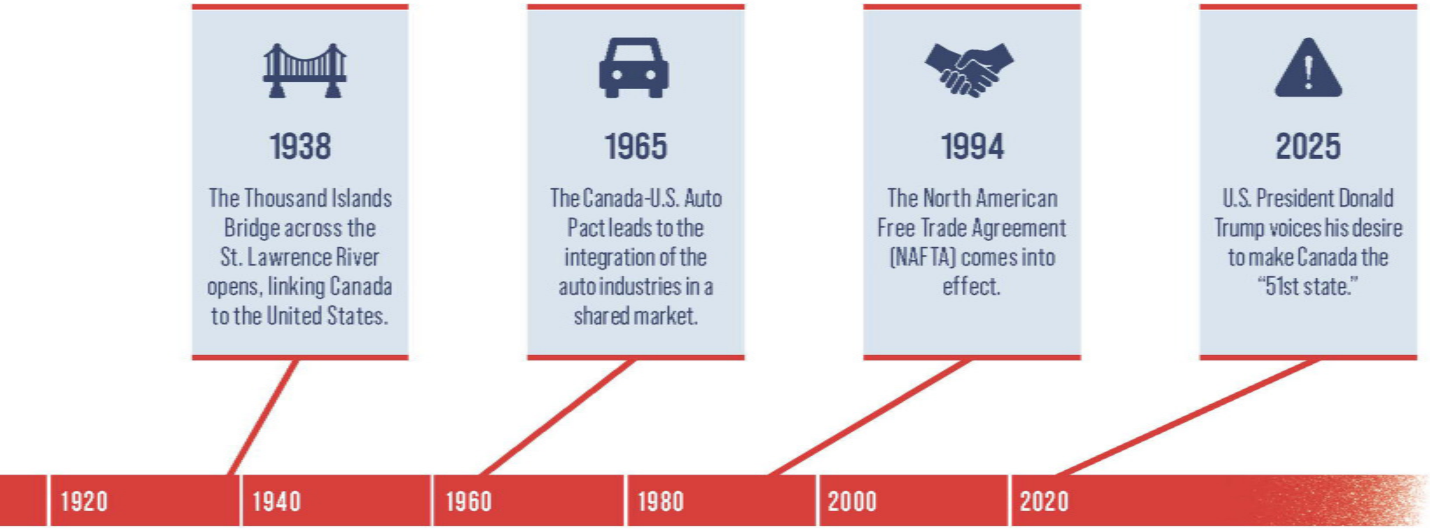
American happiness at having Canada as a fellow British colony was short-lived. The Quebec Act of 1774 made it clear that the conquered French territory would not resemble the Thirteen Colonies. It would retain its own religion and laws, as well as borders that replicated those of the French regime, when New France extended along the St. Lawrence River valley and included the land surrounding the Great Lakes.

Tolerating the practice of Catholicism was anathema to the largely Protestant English colonists. "Does not your blood run cold, to think that an English parliament should pass an act for the establishment of arbitrary power and popery in such an extensive country?" asked the young revolutionary Alexander Hamilton in *A Full Vindication of the Measures of Congress*, his 1774 pamphlet protesting British measures. They also found it hard to understand why French Canadians did not see the value in their governance and legal systems, including trial by jury and habeas corpus, meant to prevent illegal detention. The American desire that everyone copy their systems has deep roots.

But what really riled the land speculators and aspiring settlers was that Britain wanted the Thirteen Colonies restricted to the territory between the Atlantic Ocean and the Appalachian Mountains. Prior to the British conquest, the colonists had fought the French for the contested territory west of the Appalachians. Now, it seemed they would have to fight Britain. They added this to their growing list of grievances with the British government that would eventually spark their revolution.

In 1774, following the Quebec Act, delegates to a congress in Philadelphia issued a ham-fisted invitation to "the inhabitants of the Province of Quebec" to join them in their struggle against the British government. The invitation was part of a lengthy screed on the rights to which French Canadians were entitled as "English freemen" — rights they would obtain if they joined the American fight against the British government. "You are a small people, compared to those who with open arms invite you into a fellowship," the letter said. It suggested they reflect on whether they wanted "all the rest of North America your unalterable friends, or your inveterate enemies." If they knew what was good for them, they would allow themselves to be "conquered into liberty."

When French Canadians, who accounted for more than 95 per cent of Canada's non-Indigenous population, did not respond to this and to subsequent invitations, the Americans decided to invade Canada in the late summer of 1775. The pretext was that Britain was preparing to launch an attack on the U.S. from the north, using the Canadians and their First Nations allies. Britain might well have liked to do so, but as Guy Carleton, the British governor of the Province of Quebec, confided to his London superiors in June, "We are equally unprepared for Attack or Defence; Not six hundred Rank & File fit for Duty upon the whole Extent of this great River, not an armed Vessel, no Place of Strength; the ancient Provincial Force enervated and broke to Pieces."



1938
The Thousand Islands Bridge across the St. Lawrence River opens, linking Canada to the United States.

1965
The Canada-U.S. Auto Pact leads to the integration of the auto industries in a shared market.

1994
The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) comes into effect.

2025
U.S. President Donald Trump voices his desire to make Canada the "51st state."

The 1775-76 invasion failed because of poor intelligence; a lack of funds, food and equipment; the opposition of the French-Canadian clergy; and an outbreak of smallpox. Plans for a rematch during the American Revolution never made it beyond the drawing board because the Americans were preoccupied with fending off British attacks closer to home. The 1783 Treaty of Paris, which ended the revolution, acknowledged American independence. But it did not award Canada, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland or St. John Island (present-day P.E.I.) to the United States, despite a last-minute bid by American negotiator Benjamin Franklin for the British colonies. Part of the Canada-U.S. border that Trump wants to erase — the bit between the Atlantic Ocean and the western extremity of Lake Superior — was agreed upon by American negotiators Franklin, John Jay and John Adams, along with British negotiator David Hartley, at those peace talks.

> **"HAD WE NOT HAD THE STRONG ARM OF ENGLAND OVER US, WE SHOULD NOT NOW HAVE HAD A SEPARATE EXISTENCE."**
>
> **— THOMAS D'ARCY MCGEE, 1865**

Historians debate whether the War of 1812, which has achieved mythical status in Canada as a victory for the Canadian militia, was truly intended as a war of conquest. Alexander Smyth, one of the invading generals, seemed to think so when he told his troops they would be entering a country "that is to be one of the United States." British diplomats negotiating the peace deal in Ghent in 1814 clearly agreed. "[I]t is notorious to the whole world that the conquest of Canada and its permanent annexation to the United States was the declared object of the American Government," they wrote to their American counterparts.

Yet others think that the American leaders were simply trying to force Britain to stop snatching former British sailors off American ships, and to start vacating military posts on what was now American territory south of the Great Lakes.

In his book *The Picky Eagle: How Democracy and Xenophobia Limited U.S. Territorial Expansion*, historian Richard Maass argues that the United States did not want to annex Canada or Mexico because that would mean sharing self-government with an alien race that would "corrupt the United States rather than improve it." Such annexations would also upset the precarious balance between northern states that were anti-slavery and the southern, pro-slavery states. There are echoes of his argument about maintaining balance in the more recent assertion that adding Canada to the American mix would benefit the Democratic Party. The 1814 peace treaty left the prewar borders in place.

Regardless of American intent, the 1812 invasion left Canadian political leaders with a lingering fear that it was just a matter of time before the Americans tried again. There were repeated scares in its aftermath. The rebellions in Upper and Lower Canada in 1837 and 1838 provided an opening for American leaders to exploit what some saw as growing republicanism in Canada. There were scattered attacks along the border by members of American secret societies called Hunters' Lodges, but none had official U.S. government sanction. Ultimately, the rebellions failed.

On the West Coast, the dispute with Britain over the Oregon Territory — the area between the Pacific Ocean and the Rocky Mountains stretching from Mexico's northern border to Russian Alaska's southern border — provided another opening. Britain and the United States had agreed in 1818 to extend the northern border of the U.S. westward along the 49th parallel from Lake of the Woods, in present-day Ontario, to the Rocky Mountains. Beyond the mountains, however, the frontier remained undefined. John O'Sullivan, a journalist and a fan of annexation, summed up the popular mood in the United States when he wrote in 1845 that Oregon was American "by right of our manifest destiny to overspread the continent allotted by Providence for the free development of our yearly multiplying millions." Fortunately for Canada, the Americans were preoccupied during the 1840s with adding Texas, as well as the Mexican territories between Texas and the Pacific Ocean, to their union. Instead of going to war, they negotiated a division of the Oregon Territory with Britain in 1846, creating the border that exists today.

The American Civil War, particularly its aftermath, brought on a new bout of jitters. Would heavily armed and battle-hardened American troops head north? Canada had handed them the perfect pretext by turning a blind eye to Confederates taking refuge in the British colony and using it as a base to launch ill-fated attacks on the U.S., including one on St. Albans, Vt., in 1864. The Fenian Brotherhood — composed of Irish-American radicals who wanted to conquer Canada either to divert British troops and facilitate an Irish uprising, or to hold it hostage until Britain freed Ireland — were active in this period. While some American political leaders expressed sympathy for the Fenian cause, they were more preoccupied with the hard work of mending their broken union and purchasing Alaska from Russia in 1867. The U.S. government was also reluctant to provoke confrontation with Britain, which might endanger their trade relationship.

The Red River Resistance in 1869-70 led to calls in some northern states to annex the Red River Settlement at Fort Garry (later Winnipeg). The Minnesota legislature passed a resolution in March 1868 expressing its regret that the territory between Minnesota and Alaska — granted to the Hudson's Bay Company by the British Crown in 1670 without the consent of its Indigenous inhabitants — was about to become part of the Dominion of Canada. The legislators said they would "rejoice" if instead it became part of the U.S. Two years later, Zachariah Chandler, a senator from Michigan, urged Congress to open negotiations with Winnipeg on annexation. Those calls came to naught.

The last time Canada actively prepared for a war with the United States was in 1895 when an obscure dispute over the border between Venezuela and British Guiana led American President Grover Cleveland to threaten war. Canada, whose foreign policy was still decided in Britain, was the closest target. The Canadian government quickly ordered from Britain 40,000 rifles, 2,300 carbines, 24 field guns and some Maxim machine guns for the militia. Both sides backed down before shots were fired.

Still, as late as the 1940s, some Canadian political leaders were convinced that the United States was just biding its time. Prime Minister Mackenzie King confided to a friend after the Second World War that the secret aim of every American leader including Franklin Roosevelt, who served as president from 1933 to 1945, was to dominate Canada and ultimately to possess the country. If true, Trump is not an aberration, but part of a long-term strand in American political thought.

Canada survived American threats and invasions for reasons that could not easily be replicated today, with the possible exception of internal division in the United States. Royal whim and the politics among the European colonial powers were important factors in the early days; much later, Britain's presence in Canada likely dampened American urges to make a grab for the colony at opportune moments.

"They coveted Florida, and seized it; they coveted Louisiana, and purchased it; they coveted Texas, and stole it; and then they picked a fight with Mexico, which ended by their getting California," the Irish-Canadian parliamentarian Thomas D'Arcy McGee told the House of Commons in 1865 during the pre-Confederation debates. "They sometimes pretend to despise these colonies as prizes beneath their ambition; but had we not had the strong arm of England over us, we should not now have had a separate existence."

A report by Russian military strategists in 1887 looked at the Canadian Pacific Railway in terms of its capacity to move British troops to the Pacific to confront the Russians, even though most British forces had left Canada in 1871. Two reviews of the military situation along the Canada-U.S. border, written in 1888 and 1890 by American military officers, also factored in the participation of the British navy and other military forces in any future confrontation.

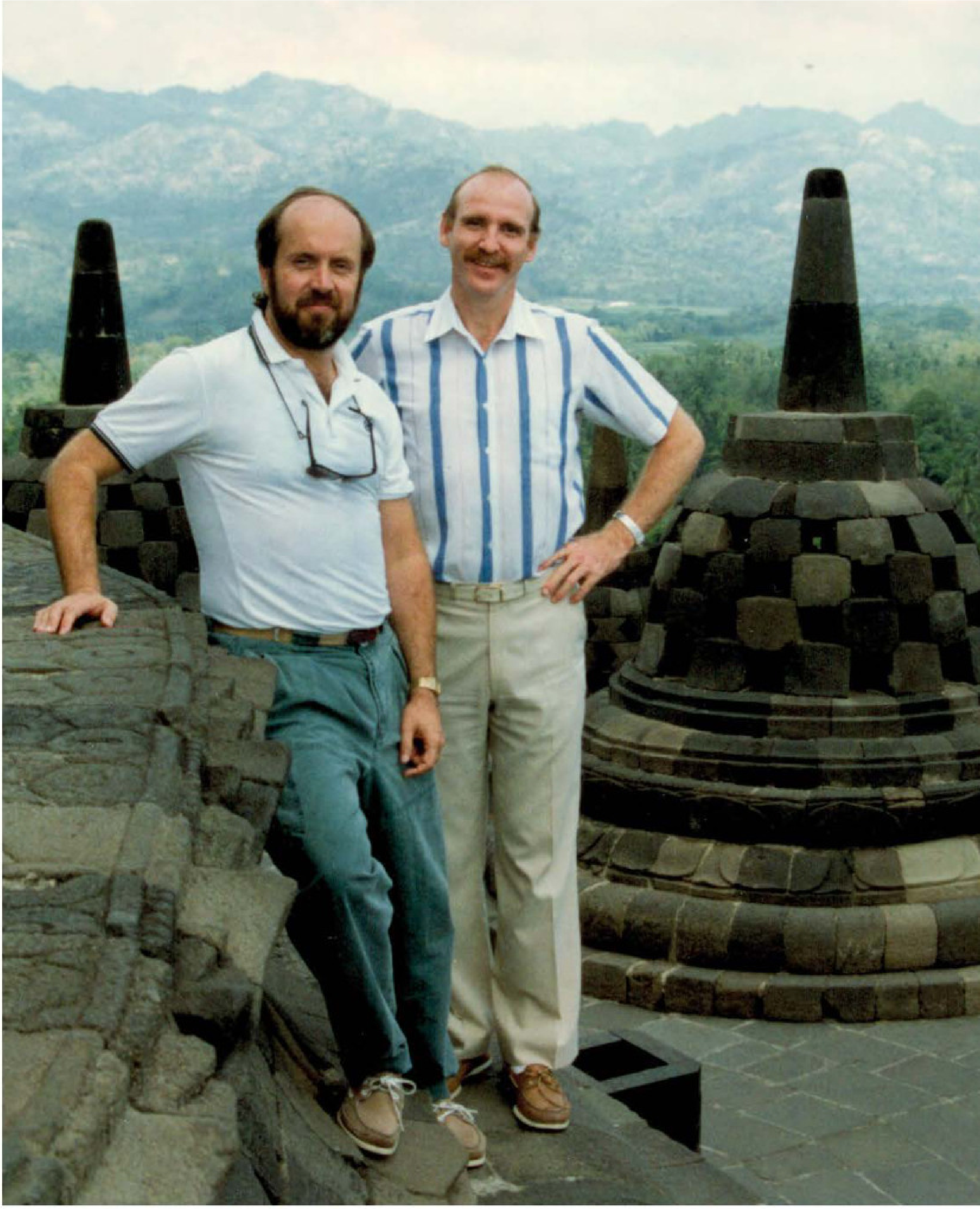
American distraction also helped Canada to survive, as other goals often took precedence. The Americans sent a weak, poorly equipped force to Canada in 1775-76 because they needed most of their troops, money and equipment to protect the Thirteen Colonies. In the 1840s, Texas, Mexico and California exerted a stronger pull on their expansionary instincts. It was not that American leaders did not want to add Canada to their union, they just wanted other things more.

Problems at home, both real and anticipated, likely forestalled some annexation plans, especially after the Civil War when adding Canada to the Union had the potential to upset the delicate balance between northern and southern states. And finally, there is a strain of thought in the United States that Canadians would eventually see the light and join them without having to be coerced. This "fruit-drop theory of empire" emerged as early as the 1850s, historian Reginald Stuart wrote in his book, *United States Expansionism and British North America, 1775-1871*. Its adherents believe time is on their side.

The most important of these factors, the British presence in Canada, no longer holds true. Canada's connection with Britain has weakened to the point where it is unclear whether Britain would have our back if Trump decided to use military force. Canada's best hope is that one of the many fires Trump has been lighting will burst into a conflagration that will command all his attention. There are many to choose from, including the undermining of the American economy with tariffs and tariff threats; the destabilization of Europe with his scorn for Ukraine and praise for Russian President Vladimir Putin; and the possible collapse of the American government following the chaotic cuts to funding and staff.

Fear of creating a domestic imbalance, not between states but between Republicans and Democrats, might also stay Trump's hand. Or — and this is not to be wished for — he may decide to go after Greenland or the Panama Canal first.

There remains the possibility, however remote it may seem in early 2025, that the unpredictable president with imperial ambitions may decide that adding Canada to the United States will cement his place in history. He seems confident, despite all evidence to the contrary, that Canadians want to become Americans. So, too, were the congressional delegates when they launched their first invasion in 1775. The words of Adams, a firm backer of that attempt, might serve as a warning to the current president. "Alas Canada," he lamented to a friend after the invasion failed in 1776. "We have found Misfortune and disgrace in that Quarter."



COURTESY CHRISTOPHER GULY

Pierre Soucy, left, and
Stan Moore at Borobudur
Buddhist Temple Compound
in Central Java in 1992.

EQUAL UNDER THE LAW

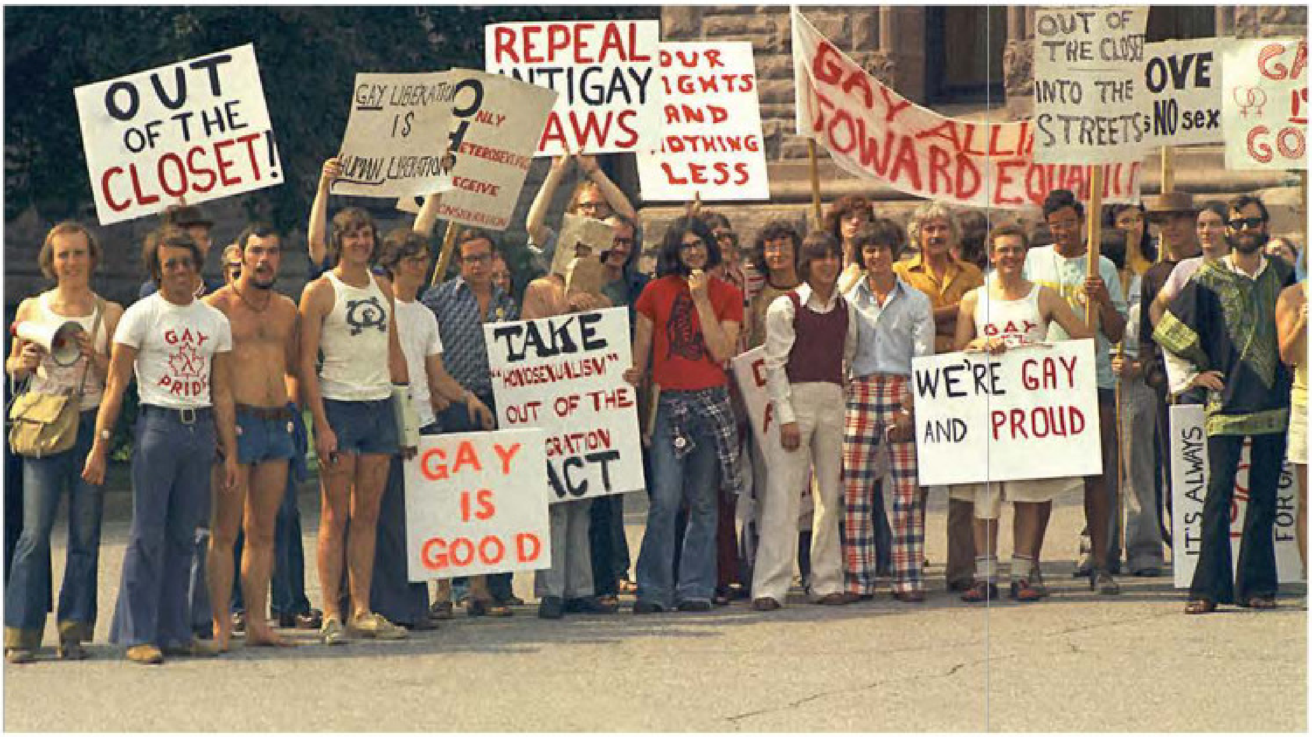
Twenty-five years ago, an expanded definition of "spouse" put same-sex couples on the path to marriage.

by Christopher Guly

When foreign service officer Stanley Moore was posted to Indonesia in 1991, he applied to Canada's external affairs department to cover relocation expenses for his partner, Pierre Soucy, and their Himalayan cat, Lady Jasmine. The department agreed to cover the expenses for the cat — but not for Moore's same-sex partner. In that instance, Soucy later recalled, the feline "had more rights and status than me as a gay man in Canada."

This year marks the 25th anniversary of a pivotal law that expanded the definition of "spouse" to include same-sex partners — and marked a major step on the road to the legalization of gay marriage. The Modernization of Benefits and Obligations Act, which received royal assent on June 29, 2000, amended 68 federal statutes — affecting such day-to-day issues as pension and death benefits, bank loans and income-tax deductions — to give gay and lesbian common-law couples the same rights and responsibilities as their heterosexual counterparts. The principle of the law, in its own words, was "to reflect values of tolerance, respect and equality, consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms."

But these changes would not have happened had it not been for people like Moore and Soucy, who exposed their private lives to public scrutiny


OUT OF THE CLOSET!
GAY LIBERATION IS HUMAN LIBERATION
ONLY HETEROSEXUALS RECEIVE CONSIDERATION
REPEAL ANTIGAY LAWS
OUR RIGHTS AND NOTHING LESS
GAY ALLIANCE TOWARD EQUALITY
OUT OF THE CLOSET INTO THE STREETS
LOVE, NO sex
GAY IS GOOD
GAY PRIDE
TAKE "HOMOSEXUALISM" OUT OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT
GAY IS GOOD
WE'RE GAY AND PROUD
IT'S ALWAYS

A gay pride rally in Toronto in 1973.

ARQUIVES/JEARLD MOLDENHAUER

to fight a years-long legal battle. During debate in the House of Commons, NDP MP Svend Robinson argued that the proposed law was "not about special rights for anyone. ... It is about fairness and equal rights. It is a recognition that gay and lesbian people pay into benefit plans and, up until very recently, have been denied the benefits that should flow." And he named Moore and Soucy among the "unsung heroes" of Canada's LGBTQ+ community who fought a "courageous fight for full equality."

It would have taken courage for Moore to tell his employers in 1991 that he was gay. Homosexuality had been decriminalized in 1969 in Canada, but legal and social equality was still a long way away. In Toronto, massive police raids on gay bathhouses in 1981 sparked protests, galvanizing the LGBTQ+ community to become more active and organized. Pride parades sprang up in various Canadian cities, but often faced social backlash.

The AIDS epidemic, which arrived in North America in 1981 and raged until the 1990s, hit sexually active gay men especially hard, and made same-sex relationships a matter of emotionally charged public debate. The ravages of the disease elicited compassion among many, especially as popular figures like actor Rock Hudson, ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev, rock-and-roll singer Freddy Mercury and pianist Liberace succumbed to the deadly virus.

The United Kingdom's Diana, Princess of Wales, made international news in 1987 when she opened an HIV/AIDS ward in London Middlesex Hospital and shook the hand of an HIV-positive patient in front of television cameras. When Robinson, the Member of Parliament for Burnaby, B.C., came out in 1988, he became the first openly gay parliamentarian in Canadian history.

But the epidemic also added fuel to the fire of social conservatives, especially Christian evangelists who preached that homosexuality was sinful. Popular American preachers like Billy Graham suggested that the AIDS epidemic was God's punishment for homosexuality. In Canada, the Alberta-based Reform Party, founded in 1987, opposed gay rights, and party founder Preston Manning, an evangelical Christian, was against homosexuality on religious grounds. Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, various Catholic and evangelical Christian groups continued to fight against equal rights for gays and lesbians.

Moore was 44 years old and had been living with Soucy for two years when he was deployed to Canada's embassy in

Indonesia for a two-year posting as a counsellor for development and economics. Soucy, then 42, took a leave of absence from his job in the federal public service to accompany him.

Before the couple left for Jakarta, Moore spoke to an official with External Affairs and International Trade Canada (now Global Affairs Canada) about spousal benefits. He was taken aback by what he heard. "He was exasperated by my insistence that Pierre's expenses should be covered and finally said to me, 'You really should be happy that we're even allowing your type to go abroad,'" says Moore.

While the couple was in Indonesia, the collective agreement between the Treasury Board and the Professional Association of Foreign Service Officers was modified to include a clause stating that there would be no discrimination based on sexual orientation. So, Moore reached out to officials at External Affairs and requested coverage for Soucy under the Foreign Service Directives, including his relocation expenses and health-care costs.

"We were told that was not the intent of the clause," recalls Soucy. He says that he and Moore then asked External Affairs what the intent was. "We never got a response. That got our dander up."

Says Moore: "I think Treasury Board simply saw it as a statement of goodwill, but not as an obligation — and were probably startled when they realized there were implications in it."

On the advice of his professional association, Moore filed a complaint with the Canadian Human Rights Commission in 1992. When it was rejected, he filed a second and then a third. "Most people would have given up at this point," says Moore. "But in my case, it just did not make sense that I would be rejected."

In 1994, the commission decided to refer Moore's case to the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, while combining it with the case of another federal public servant, Dale Akerstrom, who had also been denied benefits for his same-sex spouse, Alexander Dias.

Akerstrom wanted to change his benefits status under the Public Service Health Care Plan from "single" to "family" to include his partner. But his request for the change in coverage was rejected because "spouse," under the terms of the plan, was defined as a person of the opposite gender.

"Ours was the test case," says Moore.

"YOU REALLY SHOULD BE HAPPY THAT WE'RE EVEN ALLOWING YOUR TYPE TO GO ABROAD."

Diana, Princess of Wales, sits with Sally Miles, a resident at Milestone House AIDS hospice in Edinburgh, Scotland, in October 1991.

PRESS ASSOCIATION

As Moore's case made its way through the legal process, things were changing in Canada's judicial and political landscape. In October 1993, Jean Chrétien's Liberals won the federal election, putting an end to nine years of Conservative rule. In the riding of Vancouver Centre, physician Hedy Fry defeated Prime Minister Kim Campbell to take the seat for the Grits.

Fry, who is now 83 and still serving in the House of Commons, says she became acutely aware of the discrimination facing members of the LGBTQ+ community when she treated AIDS patients in the 1980s. "I would be there with these young men in their 20s, holding their hands as they died, and was appalled at the fact that they had no rights at all."

"A heterosexual common-law spouse could come into the hospital and make decisions about funeral arrangements and medication for their spouse. Gay couples did not have that ability. Parents who had abandoned their sons or daughters because of their sexual orientation came in and made medical decisions, which probably wasn't what the person wanted. That, for me, was a very hurtful thing," recalls Fry, who went on to serve in Chrétien's cabinet as secretary of state for multiculturalism and the status of women and is the longest-serving female MP in Canadian history. "These were human beings who were being denied the ability to be equal under the law."

She says she told Chrétien that she wanted the Canadian Human Rights Act amended to add sexual orientation as a prohibited ground of discrimination. "It was what I ran on in 1993," she says. "He said he could do that — gave it to me in writing — and we did."

Dressed as a mermaid, Liberal MP Hedy Fry walks in the Vancouver Pride Parade on August 5, 2012.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Meanwhile, in the first half of the 1990s, a number of cases were being argued in court that concerned the question of whether discriminating against someone based on their sexual orientation should be considered to be prohibited under the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Although sexual orientation was not explicitly included in either of these acts, lawyers successfully argued that it should be "read in" to the law because it was analogous to other prohibited grounds of discrimination like sex, race and religion.

The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal finally heard Moore's case — combined with Akerstrom's — in 1995, and released its decision a year later. Relying on recent court rulings, the Tribunal found that "sexual orientation is now a prohibited grounds of discrimination" under both the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and that "a definition of 'spouse' which excludes same-sex partners ... constitutes a discrimination prohibited by both [acts]."

Martha McCarthy, right, the lawyer for one of the women in the M. v. H. case, celebrates with Michelle Douglas, founding president of the Foundation for Equal Families, an intervener in the case, after the Supreme Court of Canada rules that the definition of "spouse" must include same-sex partners.

The Tribunal ordered the government to pay compensation to both Moore and Akerstrom, and to amend several federal laws related to income taxes and employment benefits so that the definition of "spouse" was changed to include same-sex partners. The ruling, upheld by the Federal Court in 1998, was an important win for Moore. He says that he "never wanted a separate category just for gays, without using the word 'spouse'" — he only wanted gay couples to be "treated as common-law spouses."

In 1996, the Liberal government under Prime Minister Chrétien amended the Canadian Human Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Then, in 1999, the Supreme Court of Canada issued a landmark family-law ruling in a case that involved two lesbian women who split up after living together for 10 years. In that case — known after the women's first initials as M. v. H. — the country's top court ruled that one of the women owed spousal support to the other after they separated, just the same as if they had been a heterosexual common-law couple.

In its ruling, the court declared the definition of "spouse" in Ontario's Family Law Act unconstitutional, since it

FRY WANTED THE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT AMENDED TO ADD SEXUAL ORIENTATION

GLOBE AND MAIL/PETER TYM

THERE WAS ONE BRIDGE THE GOVERNMENT WASN'T WILLING TO CROSS: CHANGING THE TRADITIONAL DEFINITION OF "MARRIAGE."

Prime Minister Paul Martin, right, delivers a statement on civil marriage between same-sex couples in the House of Commons on February 16, 2005, while being applauded by Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan, bottom left, and Minister of Public Works and Government Services Scott Brison.

CANADIAN PRESS/FRED CHARTRAND

only included couples made up of a man and a woman. "The exclusion of same-sex partners from the benefits of the spousal-support scheme implies that they are judged to be incapable of forming intimate relationships of economic interdependence, without regard to their actual circumstances," the court held. "Such exclusion perpetuates the disadvantages suffered by individuals in same sex relationships and contributes to the erasure of their existence."

Less than a year after that decision — on February 11, 2000 — the Liberal government introduced Bill C-23, the Modernization of Benefits and Obligations Act, into the House of Commons. But although the government was willing to expand the legal definition of "spouse" to include same-sex common-law partners, there was one bridge that it was not willing to cross: changing the traditional definition of the word "marriage."

On June 8, 1999, Members of Parliament had voted 216-55, in favour of a motion by the Official Opposition Reform Party of Canada to preserve the legal definition of marriage as "the lawful union of one man and one woman to the exclusion of others." The governing Liberals, including Justice Minister Anne McLellan, surprised many and angered some by voting in favour of the motion. McLellan said the government had "no intention of changing the definition of marriage or legislating same-sex marriage." In March 2000, a month after she introduced Bill C-23 in Parliament, McLellan added an amendment to the bill to reaffirm the traditional definition of marriage. Fry was the only cabinet minister who voted against it.

And so the Modernization of Benefits and Obligations Act drew a fine line — including same-sex couples in the definition of common-law spouses but excluding them from the definition of marriage. It wouldn't be long before this conundrum landed once again in the courts and in Parliament.

On July 12, 2002, Ontario's Divisional Court released a ruling in a case that involved several same-sex couples who had tried to obtain marriage licences from the Clerk of the City of Toronto. Halpern v. Canada (Attorney General) was the first court decision in Canada that found preventing "gays and lesbians from entering into the societal institution of marriage" was a violation of their equality rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The

Michael Leshner, left, and Michael Stark hold their marriage licence after becoming Canada's first legally married gay couple on June 10, 2003.

CANADIAN PRESS/FRANK GUNN

court ruled that the legal definition of marriage should be changed to the union of "two persons to the exclusion of all others." Courts in Quebec and British Columbia soon made similar rulings.

On February 13 of the following year, Robinson introduced a private member's bill that would legalize same-sex marriages. It was his third attempt since 1998, and, like the others, the bill failed. However just four months later, on June 10, 2003, the Ontario Court of Appeal upheld the lower court's decision in the Halpern case. Seven days later, the Liberal government announced that it would unveil legislation to legalize same-sex marriage. By July, the government had prepared a draft bill and sent it to the Supreme Court for legal vetting.

On February 1, 2005, Prime Minister Paul Martin, the successor to Chrétien, introduced Bill C-38, the Civil Marriage Act. It passed by a 158-133 vote in the House of Commons and received royal assent on July 20. Same-sex marriage was officially legal across Canada.

Moore and Soucy got married in 2004 and now live in Vancouver. Looking back, Moore says they feel "honoured and proud that our court case was instrumental in advancing the gay agenda," and they hope that their story "will inspire champions of today and tomorrow to continue to push forward toward a vision of fuller societal and judicial acceptance."

However, he cautions that "the hard work of generations can be undone in a flash, as witnessed by the rapid growth of regressive attitudes and policies south of the border." Moore adds that, as the late South African Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, "reminded us, 'The price of freedom is eternal vigilance.'"

Measuring change

Fifty years of Celsius and the move to metric.

by Jamie Bradburn

"Say goodnight to Fahrenheit," proclaimed an ad in more than 100 Canadian newspapers on March 31, 1975. Sponsored by the federal government's Metric Commission, the ad told Canadians that from the next day onward, all temperatures would be measured on the Celsius scale. It also declared that changing from the old imperial and avoirdupois (ounces and pounds) systems to metric would make measurements simpler, more logical and, with 90 per cent of the world using it, keep Canada competitive.

"The easiest way to learn the new temperatures is just to use them," the ad continued. "Live them. Think them. Talk them. And don't convert back."

While proponents saw that April 1st switch to Celsius from Fahrenheit as the start of a glorious new era, others viewed it as an April Fool's Day joke. Despite the rhetoric promoting the superiority of the metric system, the hope that it would fully replace existing methods of measurement met with resistance. Indeed, as the first major move toward metric marks its 50th anniversary, for a variety of unforeseen reasons, the complete conversion that experts and government officials imagined remains unfinished.

The shift to metric wasn't sudden — it had been recognized as a backup measurement system in North America since the 19th century. When the Weights and Measures Act of Canada went into effect in 1873, it legally recognized any transactions that involved metric units. By the 1960s, professional associations representing businesses, consumers, educators, scientists and others lobbied the federal government to implement metric. Proponents offered many soon-to-be-familiar arguments, including international standardization, the simplicity of measures based on factors of 10 instead of assorted base numbers and the potential growth of Canadian products in a wider number of markets.

Though detractors insisted Canada could not move forward without American implementation of metric or asked why change something people were familiar with, promoters worried Canadians would be left behind globally. "Canada seems to be asleep," Leslie (L.E.) Howlett, a National Research Council director and the president of the International Committee for Weights and Measures, observed in 1966. "People are talking about it at times, but nothing is happening."

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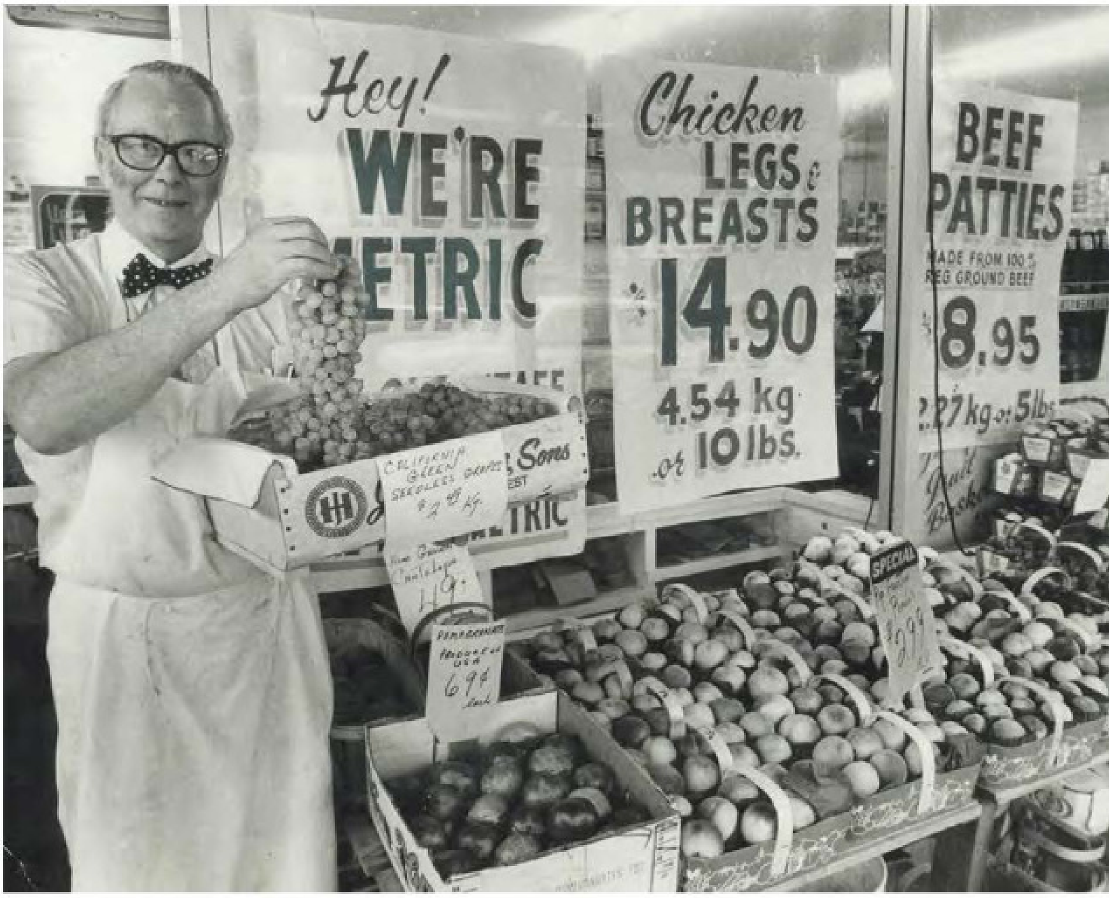

After protests in the early 1980s, grocery stores were allowed to use both Imperial and metric for selling their products. Here, grocer Len Welch has signs with both systems in his Peterborough, Ont., store in 1979.

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Metric advocates closely watched the United Kingdom's conversion progress, which began in the early 1960s and was scheduled for completion by 1975. Also monitored were major American manufacturers, such as the Ford Motor Company, which studied the effects of metric conversion even though the United States remained the world's major holdout.

Among the first Canadian adopters, meanwhile, were hospitals, starting with Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children in the mid-1960s. Administrators and hospital associations across the country promoted metric for many reasons, including its widespread scientific use and more precise drug measurements, particularly for younger patients. By 1969, more than 200 hospitals, mostly in Ontario, had switched over. When Calgary's Foothills Hospital (now Foothills Medical Centre) converted that year, its administrators also cited metric's use in professional journals, its familiarity among immigrants and new employees, and its increasing presence in commercial and industrial settings. To bring employees up to speed, the hospital offered six weeks of metric-orientation sessions.

Believing metric to be inevitable and desirable, the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce issued the white paper on metric conversion in Canada in January 1970 to propose a general policy for conversion. The report warned that North America might remain "an inch-pound island in an otherwise metric world — a position which would be in conflict with Canadian industrial and trade interests and commercial policy objectives." The report also suggested that many adults did not have or forgot the math needed to calculate existing units and that metric would be easier to learn and use.

Though it recognized that full adaptation hinged on American actions, the report concluded that our southern neighbour shouldn't slow the process. The authors believed that most sectors of Canadian life would have few problems converting as long as the transition was carefully phased in.

The white paper inspired two pieces of legislation that passed in 1971: an amendment to the Weights and Measures Act recognizing the use of metric in Canada; and the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act, which required metric measurements on most product labels. It also inspired the creation of a preparatory agency that evolved into the Metric Commission. Chaired by former Canadian Pacific Railway executive Stevenson Gossage, it oversaw more than 100 sector committees that monitored and prepared conversion plans for a wide range of interests and industries. There were problems figuring out which

Commissioners believed the process must be gradual and fun — not frightening — for easier public acceptance.

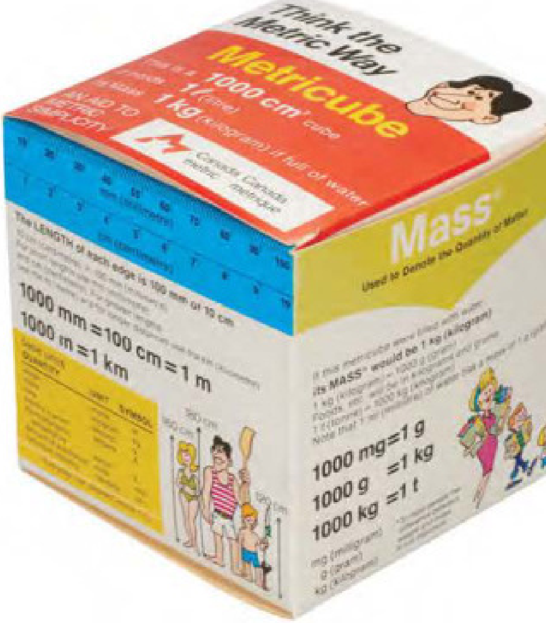
sectors should convert fully and which, especially industries reliant on American materials, should take it slowly. The commission dodged questions about the conversion costs, waving them away with a promise that the long-term economic benefits outweighed the price tag.

Commissioners believed the process must be gradual and fun — not frightening — for easier public acceptance. Government agencies and major corporations borrowed ideas from the British, such as promotional posters displaying bikini-clad models whose body measurements were provided in both systems. Pulp-and-paper industry giant Domtar Fine Papers Ltd., for example, issued posters featuring "Buffy, the Metric Miss" in 1973 to start public conversations about the problems surrounding conversion. Graphics produced by the commission for newspaper ads and articles about temperature conversions indicated that 30°C was an "ideal day for a swim" while -20°C was "so cold the snow squeaks."

Among the biggest private promoters of metric was pulp-and-paper giant Bowater Canadian Corporation, which worked in tandem with the MacLaren Advertising company to create a colourful series of educational ads published in *Maclean's* magazine throughout 1974 and 1975. Bowater claimed that it was the first Canadian company to create "a broad-scale educational program to introduce metrics, especially in areas where the public is initially most likely to be confused," such as cooking, sports and weather. Other businesses offered handy conversion tools, from promotional thermometers to desk "Metricubes" that listed a range of base metric units on all six sides.

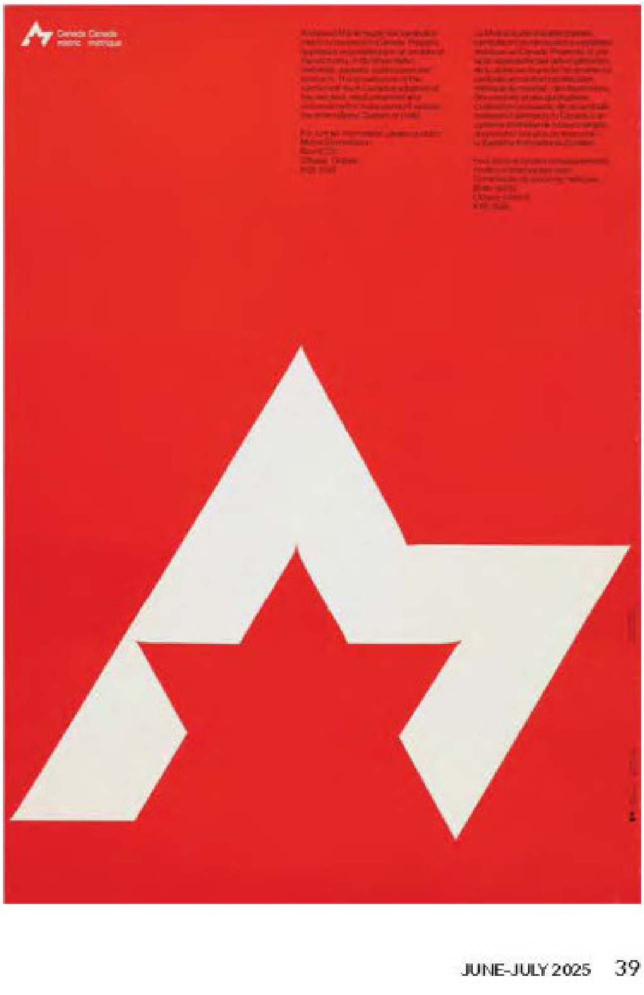
Even professional sports were not immune. The Canadian Football League pondered its future, including possible changes to field length and increasing the number of downs to four to meet metric standards. League officials wondered if yardsticks would eventually become "metresticks."

Implementing the system in schools was inconsistent. While the Metric Commission reached agreements with the provinces to start teaching metric to primary students in fall 1974, some jurisdictions, including many school boards in Ontario, jumped the gun and began instruction a year earlier, while others, such as New Brunswick, took their time. Textbook publishers struggled as inconsistent timelines left them unable to predict when to publish new editions.



Above: The Canada Metric Commission produced informational tools that were meant to be fun and helpful, such as this paper "Metricube."

Below: The Metric Commission's stylized "M" and maple leaf were to identify Canada's adoption of metric across all sectors of the economy.



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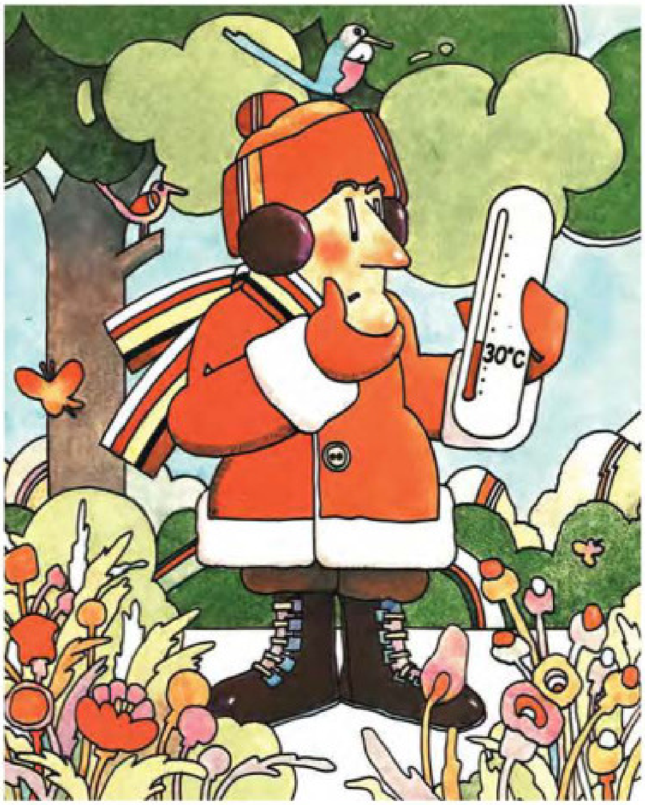
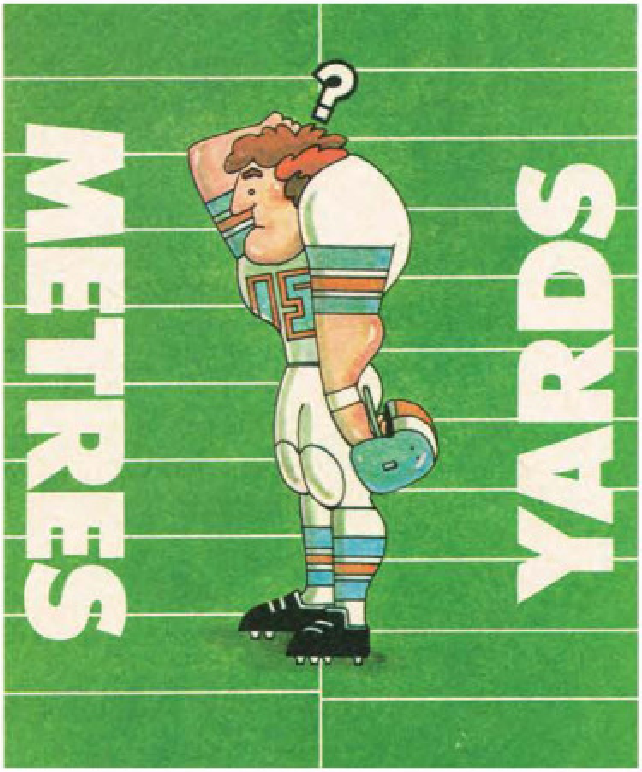




Above: Bowater Canadian Corporation, a major metric proponent, published a series of educational ads, like these ones, in *Maclean's* magazine.

TOP: GRAPHIC FROM BOWATER CANADA LTD. AD, MACLEAN'S APRIL 1975
BOTTOM: GRAPHIC FROM BOWATER CANADA LTD. AD, MACLEAN'S OCTOBER 1974

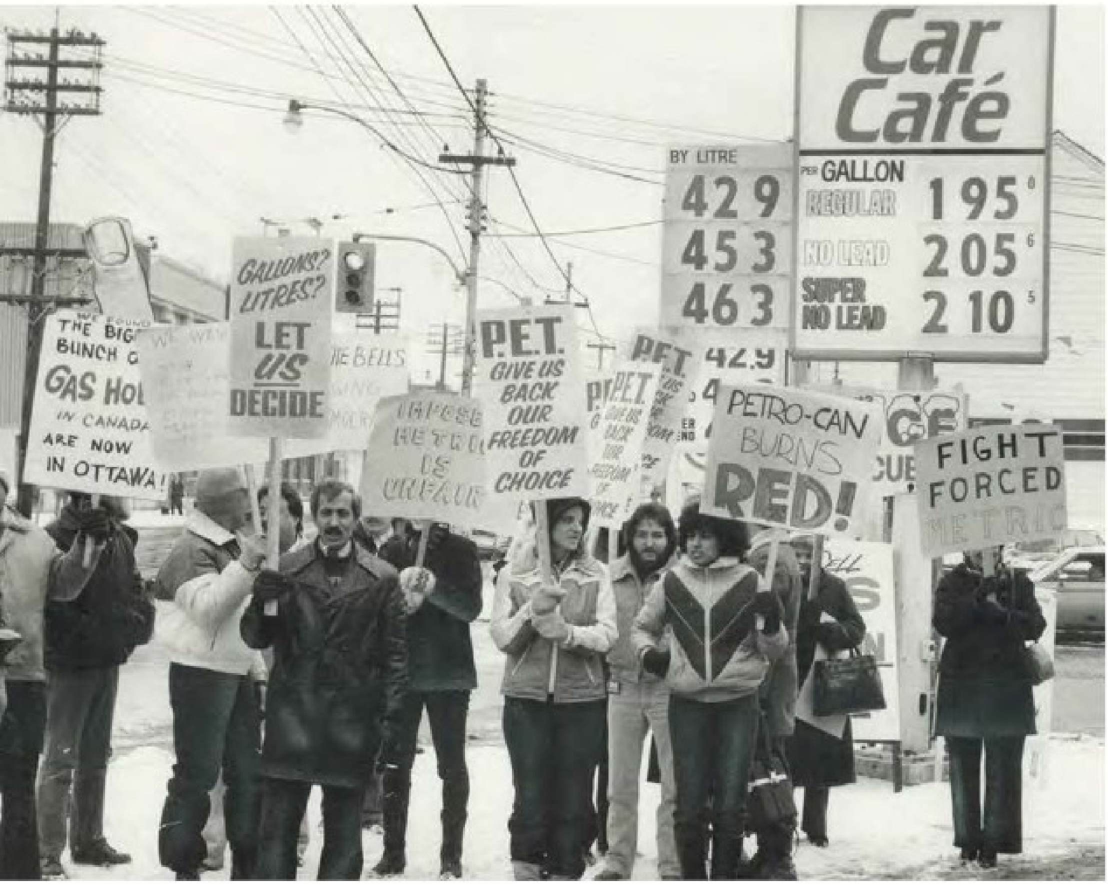
Despite the encouragement of home economists, people vowed to hang on to their old measuring cups and spoons.

As the guidelines around teaching metric were developed, individual schools took creative approaches. At West Humber Junior School in Etobicoke, Ont., principal Fred Willson turned an unused classroom into a space students named "Metric Mansion." They sang songs about metric (including a version of "If You're Happy and You Know It," which declared "the metric system puts you far ahead"), played games and learned to use tools like metric rulers. The students were convinced to "think metric" instead of learning how to convert from the old measurements.

Adults were harder to convince. The construction industry resisted due to its reliance on American-produced materials. The paper industry was reluctant to shift away from standard North American sizes due to the costs of converting printing presses and the relatively low use of metric paper sizes elsewhere. Despite the encouragement of home economists, people vowed to hang on to their old measuring cups and spoons. Newspapers were filled with cranky columns and letters to editors. *Toronto Star* columnist Dennis Braithwaite, who admitted he didn't like change of any kind, was unhappy when weather forecasts started to give temperatures in Celsius instead of Fahrenheit. He called the new temperature scale a "Judas goat" that would lead Canada into the "darkening morass of the metric system." An editorial in B.C.'s *Quesnel Cariboo Observer* called metric conversion "a diabolical plot perpetrated many years ago by men of science." The writer believed that the best piece of advice for Canadians was to "forget everything you've ever learned about measurement up to now."

The Metric Commission's plan was for Environment Canada to issue its forecasts in Celsius only on April 1, 1975, leaving it to media outlets to decide if they also wanted to include Fahrenheit readings. At least one American television station that also served a Canadian market, WCAX in Burlington, Vt. (which was seen in Montreal), decided to include Celsius in its forecasts.

A major hiccup occurred when Environment Canada did not ship new thermometers to weather stations in time for the conversion. Media reports quoted an unnamed agency official who suggested it was a money-saving move, and existing $10 instruments would be replaced as they broke. Environment Canada quickly changed the story, with



Debates over metric continued into the early 1980s. Here, anti-metric protesters demonstrate outside Jack Halpert's gas-by-the-gallon station in Toronto, 1983.

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Toronto-based service administrator Roy Lee claiming that orders for 10,000 thermometers were placed two years earlier, but only 2,000 had arrived, and required extensive calibration before being approved for use. It was expected all of the old thermometers would be replaced within nine months.

Weather offices also dealt with angry or confused calls from the public. "Canadians value their weather information," Nancy Cutler, metric conversion coordinator for the Atmospheric Environment Service, recalled in a 2015 *Toronto Star* interview, "and when you start tampering with it, you're tampering with something very close to their hearts."

While many living close to the border increasingly relied on American stations to provide temperatures in Fahrenheit, Canadians generally adapted quickly to Celsius and, from the fall of 1975, measuring precipitation in metric.

The metric rollout continued for the rest of the decade. Road signs switched to kilometres for speed and distance in December 1977, while gas stations dropped gallons for litres in January 1979. The conversion of grocery store weigh scales became a political football, with cutoff dates continually pushed off until, in December 1983, stores could only sell items in grams and kilograms.

During the early 1980s, debates over metric turned partisan, with Liberals for mandatory conversions and Progressive Conservatives against. An anti-metric petition created by the *Toronto Sun* gathered tens of thousands of signatures. Progressive Conservative MPs brought several anti-metric petitions into the House of Commons in April 1982, including a 135,000-name one that was 5.6 kilometres long and weighed 112 kilograms. Anti-metric groups with names such as Measure Canada and HUMBUG (Help Undo Metrication, Bug your MP) formed. Fields such as real estate continued to hold out. In 1985, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's government relaxed restrictions on using the old measurements in areas from food scales in small businesses to home furnishings — as long as metric was also used. His government also dissolved the Metric Commission.

In the long run, not all Canadians embraced the "beautiful logic inherent in the metric system" that the 1974 guidebook "Canada Goes Metric" gushed about. The current federal government acknowledges that some Canadians are more comfortable with the old measurements and allows both to be used. Celsius is the standard for weather, but we still use Fahrenheit to cook. Eyebrows twitch when people are asked for their height in centimetres instead of feet and inches. Outsiders may be confused by our refusal to stick to one system or another, but nobody is rushing to change the temperature.

EH? TO ZED TRIVIA

TEST YOUR HISTORICAL KNOWLEDGE WITH OUR CANADA DAY QUIZ!

by Nancy Payne

1

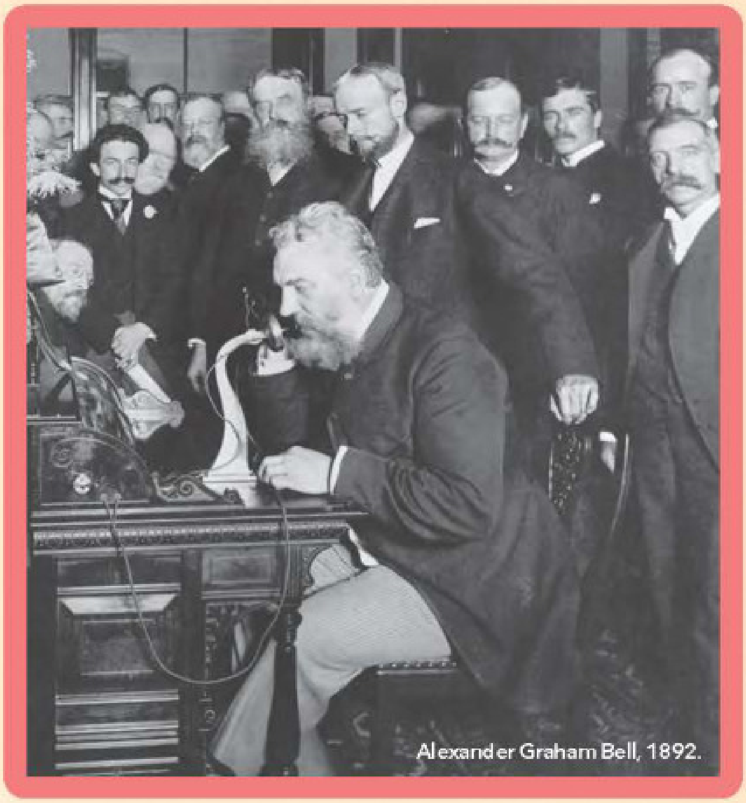
What did inventor Alexander Graham Bell propose as the standard telephone greeting?

a) How do you do?

b) Hello.

c) Salutations!

d) Ahoy!



Alexander Graham Bell, 1892.

2

Who was the first woman to have a solo show in her lifetime at the National Gallery of Canada?

a) Toronto multimedia artist Joyce Wieland

b) West Coast painter Emily Carr

c) First Nations painter and printmaker Daphne Odjig

d) Montreal portraitist Prudence Heward

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Take the quiz online for a chance to win a prize!
Scan the QR code or go to CanadasHistory.ca/Eh2Zed

CONTINUE ☞

Okinawan family in Alberta, 1928.

3

The governments of Canada and Japan agreed in 1928 to restrict annual Japanese immigration to Canada to how many people?

a) 0

b) 150

c) 1,500

d) 15,000

4

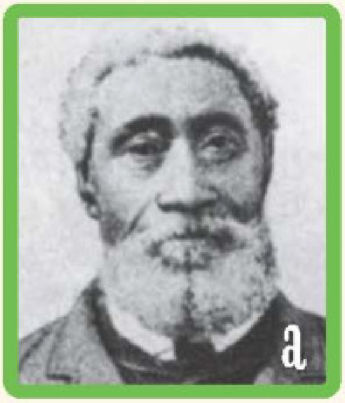
After escaping from enslavement in the United States and enduring discrimination in Nova Scotia, who led a contingent of disillusioned Black settlers from Halifax to Sierra Leone in 1792?

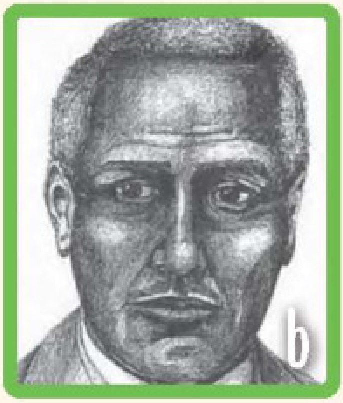
a) William Hall

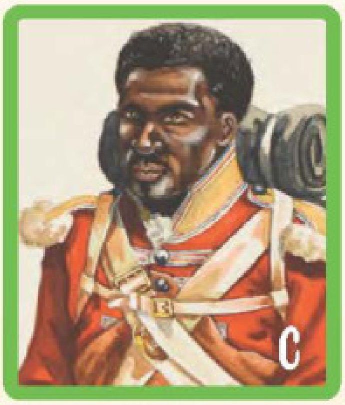
b) John Freeman Walls

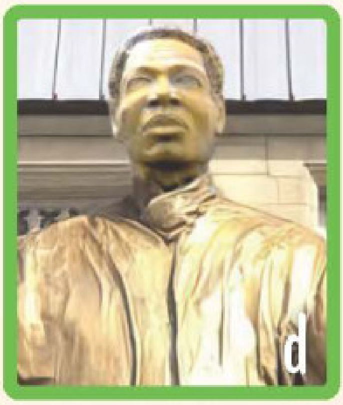
c) Richard Pierpoint

d) Thomas Peters

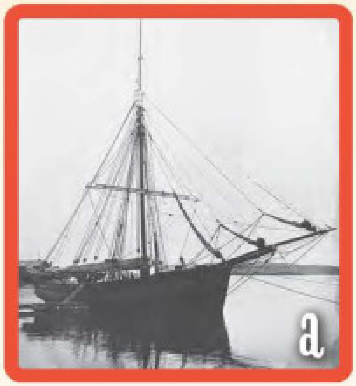


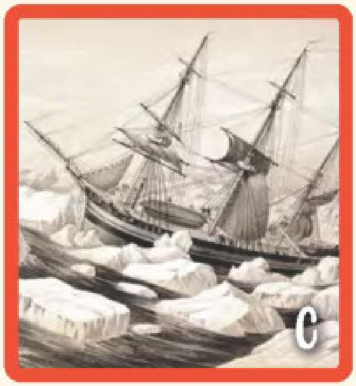






TOP LEFT: TAMAYOSE, ART / LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA / PA-117748; BOTTOM RIGHT, CLOCKWISE FROM A: MARITIME MUSEUM OF THE ATLANTIC; JOHN FREEMAN WALLS HISTORIC SITE; DR. AFUA COOPER; CANADIAN WAR MUSEUM CWM 19810948-008





5

What RCMP ship, now permanently docked at the Vancouver Maritime Museum, was the first to cross the Northwest Passage from west to east?

a) Gjøa

b) St. Roch

c) Erebus

d) Bluenose

6

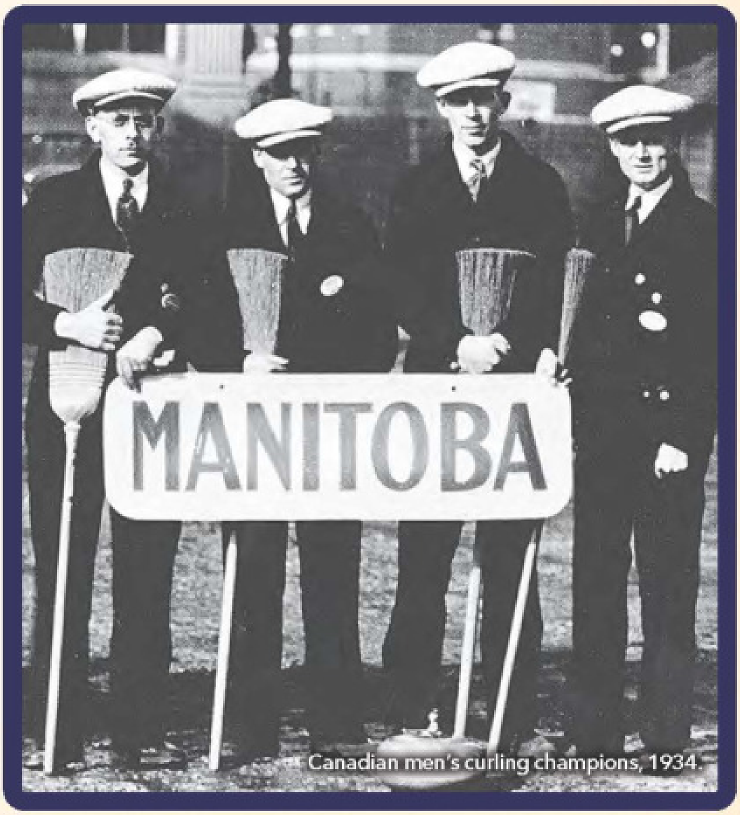
What was donated to the Winnipeg General Hospital as a result of the first official curling match at the Manitoba Curling Club in Winnipeg, held December 11, 1876?

a) Four bolts of polka-dotted cotton cloth

b) A cart horse

c) A barrel of oatmeal

d) A bale of bison hides



Canadian men's curling champions, 1934.

TOP LEFT, CLOCKWISE FROM A): NORWEGIAN MUSEUM OF CULTURAL HISTORY NBR9401:15875; VANCOUVER MARITIME MUSEUM / HSDO-40-5; W.R. MACASKILL/LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA/PA-030803; LINDA HALL LIBRARY; BOTTOM RIGHT: MANITOBA CURLING MUSEUM

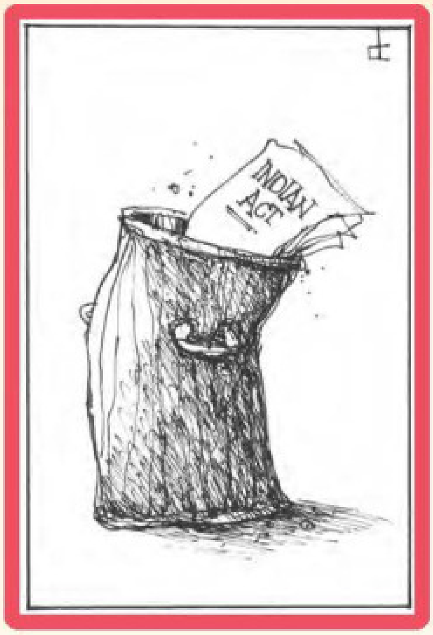
CONTINUE

7

True or false: From 1927 to 1951, the Indian Act made it illegal for First Nations people to raise money amongst themselves to hire a lawyer or pursue a legal claim.

True

False



8

Which Canadian province or territory has the longest coastline?

a) Nunavut

b) Newfoundland

c) British Columbia

d) Quebec

9

The 11-point maple leaf on today's Canadian flag is based on an earlier design with how many points on the maple leaf?

a) 13

b) 17

c) 9

d) 7

TOP RIGHT: WINNIPEG FREE PRESS; CENTRE RIGHT: ISTOCK; BOTTOM LEFT: PUBLIC DOMAIN

10

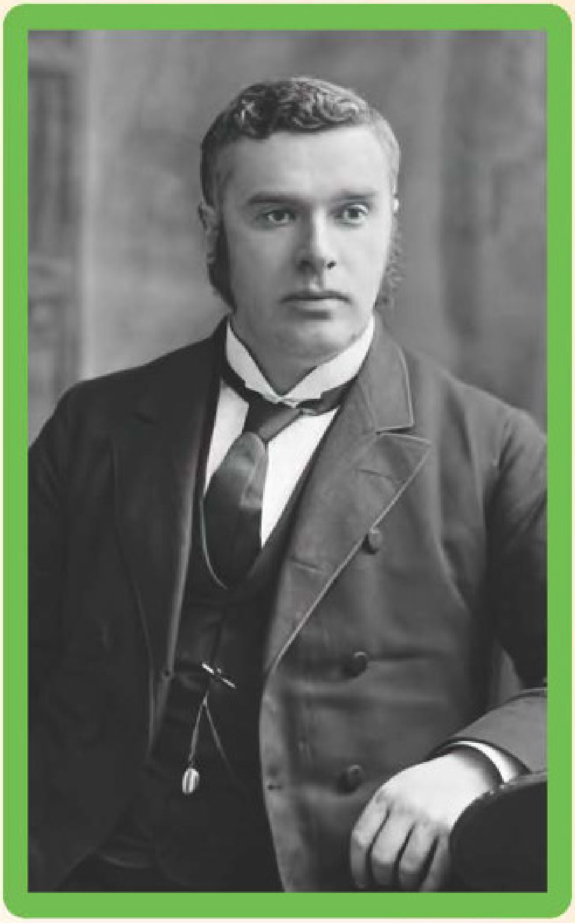
Under what circumstances did Canadian Prime Minister John Thompson die on December 12, 1894?

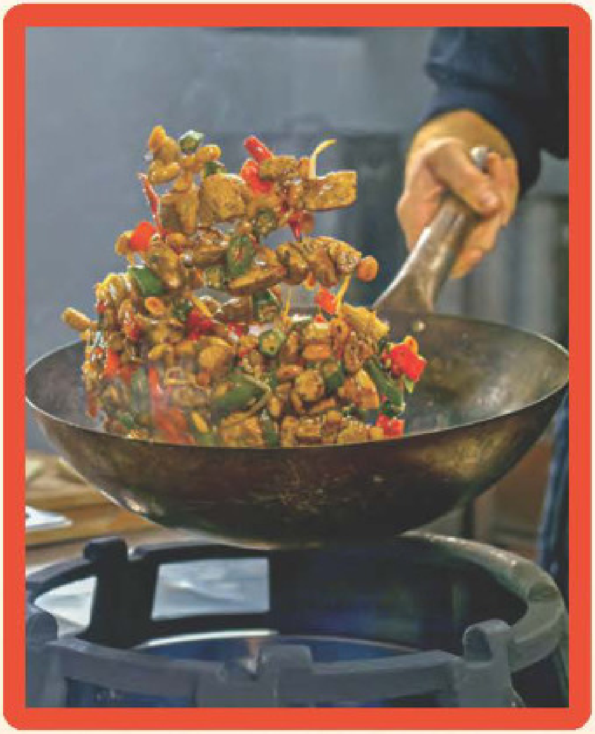
a) While delivering a fiery speech in the House of Commons

b) In a confrontation with French Canadians protesting the execution of Louis Riel

c) Caught in a scandalous affair with the Governor General's wife, Lady Aberdeen

d) While lunching with Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle





11

What tasty Chinese-Canadian dish is said to have been invented in the 1970s by Calgary chef George Wong?

a) Chop suey

b) Ginger beef

c) Sweet-and-sour chicken balls

d) Bison fried rice

TOP RIGHT: LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA 342197 & BOTTOM LEFT: ISTOCK

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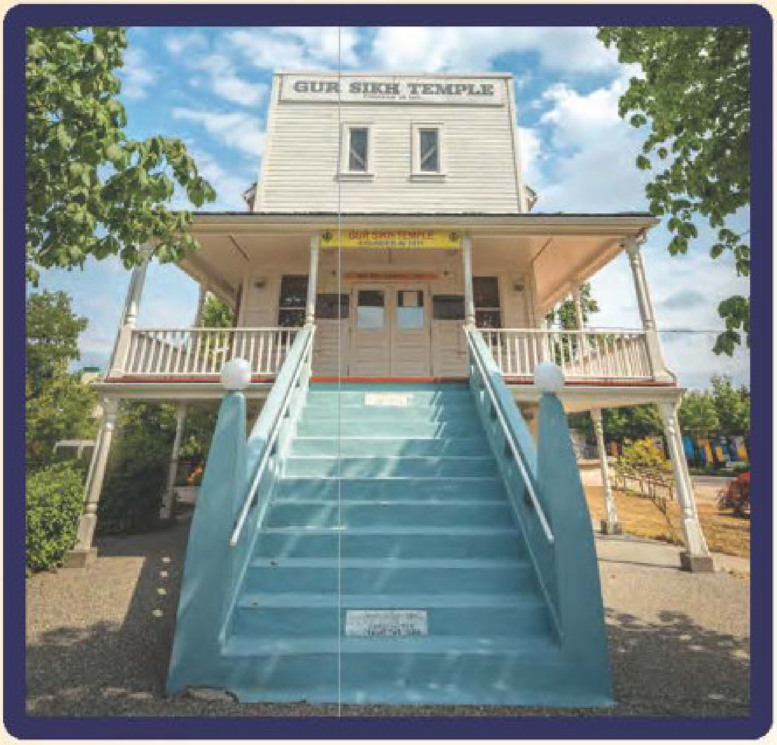


12

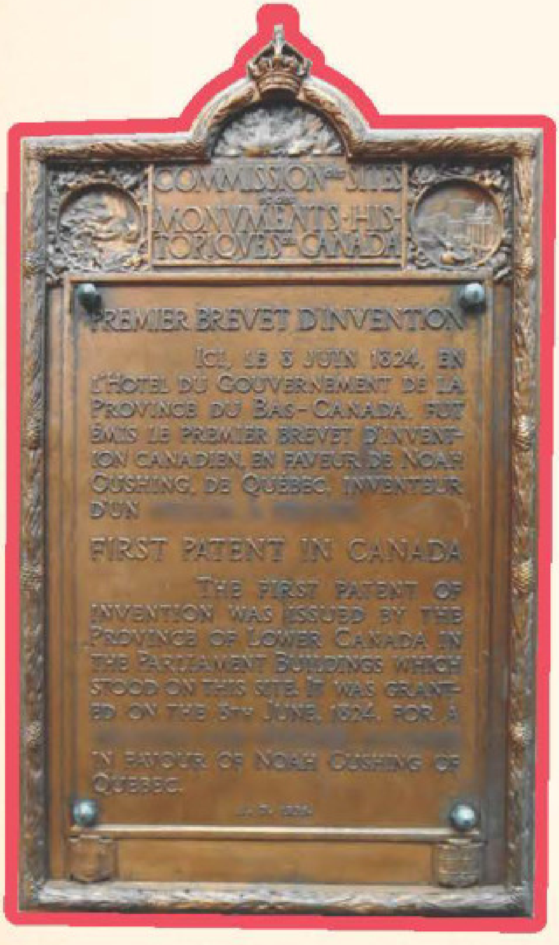
In what year did builders complete the first Sikh gurdwara (temple) that still survives in Canada?

a) 1841

b) 1900

c) 1911

d) 1926



COMMISSION DES SITES ET MONUMENTS HISTORIQUES DU CANADA

PREMIER BREVET D'INVENTION

ICI, LE 8 JUIN 1824, EN L'HOTEL DU GOUVERNEMENT DE LA PROVINCE DU BAS-CANADA, FUT ÉMIS LE PREMIER BREVET D'INVENTION CANADIEN, EN FAVEUR DE NOAH CUSHING, DE QUÉBEC, INVENTEUR D'UN [redacted]

FIRST PATENT IN CANADA

THE FIRST PATENT OF INVENTION WAS ISSUED BY THE PROVINCE OF LOWER CANADA IN THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS WHICH STOOD ON THIS SITE. IT WAS GRANTED ON THE 8TH JUNE, 1824, FOR A [redacted]

IN FAVOUR OF NOAH CUSHING OF QUEBEC.

13

The first patent in Canada was issued to Noah Cushing on June 8, 1824, for what invention?

a) A "washing and fulling machine"

b) A "waggon divided into equal portions"

c) An "advanced method of churning butter"

d) A "device for measuring gaseous substances"

TOP LEFT: BC MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION. BOTTOM LEFT: JEAN GAGNON

14

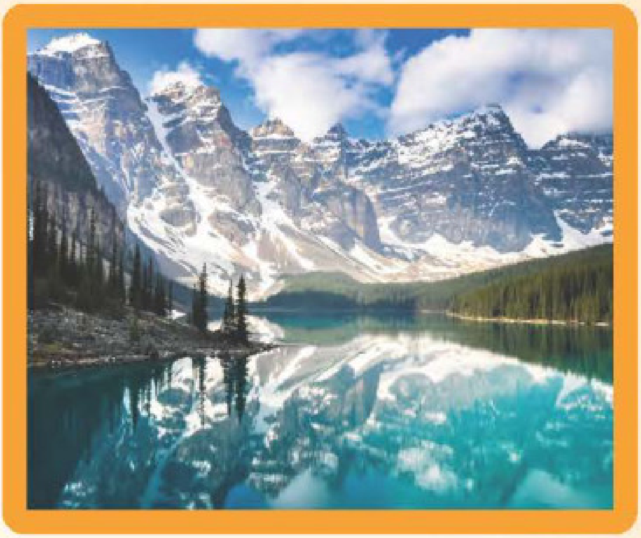
Established in 1885, Banff was the first national park in Canada. What was the second?

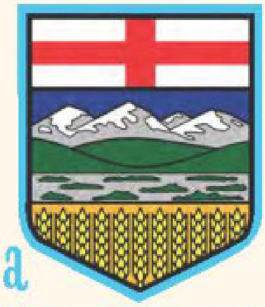
a) Glacier

b) Yoho

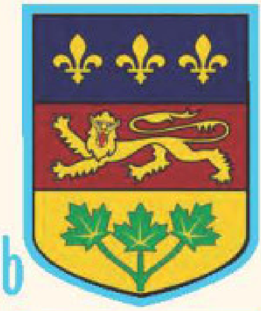
c) Cape Breton Highlands

d) Thousand Islands

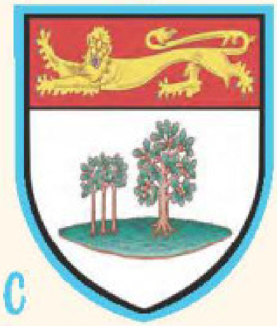




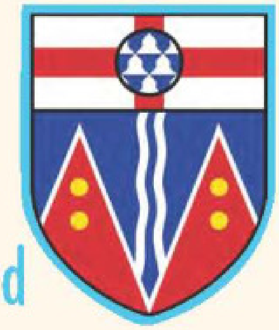
a



b



c



d

15

Which province or territory was the first to include sexual orientation in its human rights code?

a) Alberta

b) Quebec

c) Prince Edward Island

d) Yukon

ANSWERS

1. d) Ahoy! The greeting "Hello" was Thomas Edison's idea.

2. a) Joyce Wieland, in 1971. Carr and Heward both had posthumous shows.

3. b) 150

4. d) Thomas Peters

5. b) St. Roch

6. c) A barrel of oatmeal

7. True

8. a) Nunavut, whose extensive mainland and more than 36,000 islands give it 144,689 kilometres of coastline.

9. a) 13. That shape proved too hard to discern from afar or in the wind, so the number of points was reduced.

10. d) While lunching with Queen Victoria at Windsor Castle.

11. b) Ginger beef

12. c) 1911. It's the Gur Sikh Temple in Abbotsford, B.C.

13. a) A "washing and fulling machine." Fulling was a process of pounding wool cloth to cleanse and thicken it.

14. a) Glacier and b) Yoho. The two parks were established simultaneously in 1886.

15. b) Quebec, in 1977

TOP RIGHT: ISTOCK. CENTRE LEFT: ALL CRESTS PUBLIC DOMAIN

PETERBOROUGH EXAMINER

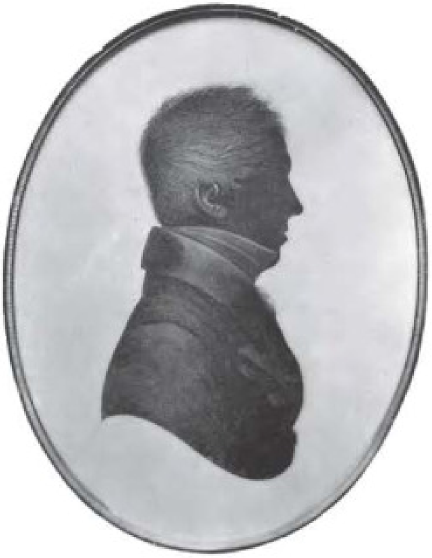
Get your Irish on!

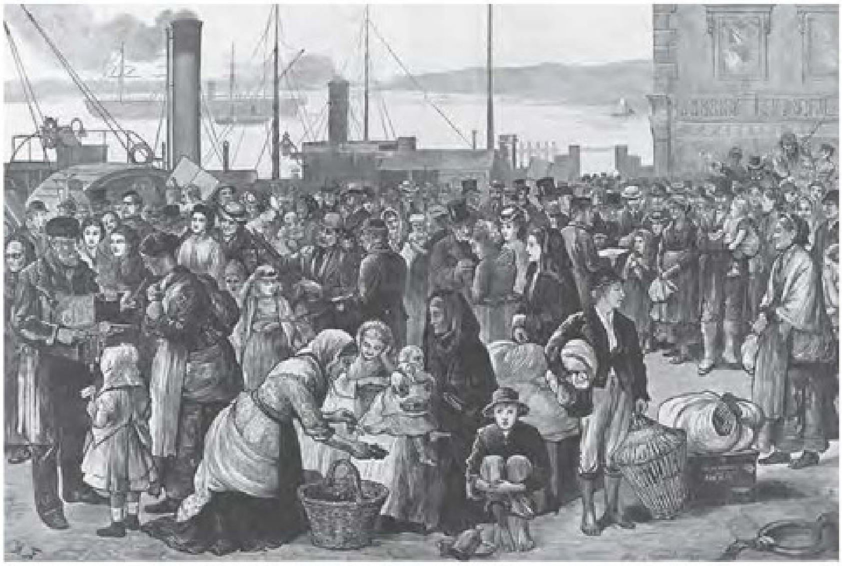
An Ontario region celebrates two centuries of Celtic settlement. *by Nancy Payne*

Six weeks crossing the ocean from Cork, Ireland, to Quebec City for people who'd mostly never set foot on a ship. Up the St. Lawrence to Montreal, followed by a 20-kilometre trudge to Lachine. By batteau and scow into what is now Ontario, to Prescott and then sweltering days in tents in Kingston. Back on the river to Cobourg, then a final, jolting 48-kilometre journey on barely passable backwoods roads, past Rice Lake on the way to Peterborough, then known as Scott's Plains.

The nearly 2,000 Irish immigrants on those nine ships must have despaired more than once on the way to their new life in Upper Canada. Led by Canadian Peter Robinson at the behest of the British government, the settlement project, as well as the lasting influence of those Irish settlers, is being commemorated throughout the central Ontario area where they arrived two centuries ago. That makes 2025 an excellent time to explore the region, but be sure to have a solid plan — people of Irish heritage from all over, including Ireland itself, are likely to swell attendance at the myriad special events coordinated by the Nine Ships 1825 group.

Although there are happenings all year (visit the excellent NineShips1825.com website for a full list), Aug. 1 through 10 is the focal point of the commemorations — including the Grand Irish Gathering at The Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough on Aug. 2. There are also Robinson-focused heritage walking tours of Peterborough (yes, it's named after him, although it is increasingly also referred to by its name in Anishinaabemowin, Nogojiwanong).





Left: Children participate in Peterborough's annual St. Patrick's Day parade in the city's downtown.

Above: A silhouette of the city's namesake, Peter Robinson, circa 1830.

Above right: An 1874 engraving published in the *Illustrated London News* shows Irish emigrants preparing to leave the Queenstown Harbour in County Cork, Ireland, for North America.

Lower right: The Canadian Canoe Museum's "Living Traditions" exhibit.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CITY OF TORONTO DIGITAL ARCHIVES/ BALDWIN COLLECTION OF CANADIANA; KAWARTHANOW.COM/PUBLIC DOMAIN/ JUSTIN SOULE

Tourists can also take advantage of bus trips to settlement areas such as Young's Point, Douro and Ennismore, as well as to sites along the emigrants' route. There are history talks, panel discussions, a play about the settlers at the locally popular outdoor 4th Line Theatre in nearby Cavan, a special Roman Catholic mass and music everywhere, pretty much all the time.

The beloved Downeyville Jamboree on Aug. 3 welcomes music lovers of all ages to the grounds of St. Luke's Catholic Church in the heart of a village founded by the 1825 settlers, about half an hour northwest of Peterborough. Downeyville retains and celebrates its Irish heritage to an extent that would be hard to match outside the Emerald Isle.

While many Nine Ships events will be joyful, there's also an understandably sombre note amid the harmony. "We didn't want it to be just beer fests and hurling matches," says Dennis Carter-Edwards, a retired research historian and Nine Ships board member. "We wanted it to be meaningful, and I think the program we've developed speaks to that."

The journey was undoubtedly traumatic for the migrants, most of whom had likely never been more than a few kilometres from home. And the opportunity for them to own property themselves and live free from English oppression came at the expense of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabe — even after they had helped many of the newcomers survive.

For instance, Robinson's careful records of annual production from settlers' farms include yields of maple syrup and maple sugar — indicative of co-operation with the Indigenous peoples. "I'm sure they weren't tapping maple trees in Cork and area," Carter-Edwards says. "You really get the sense there was interaction and dialogue." Nine Ships organizers have invited members of Alderville, Curve Lake and Hiawatha First Nations to participate in any way they wish, or to refrain, as they prefer.

Everyone has something to learn from and appreciate at the bicentennial commemorations, the Nine Ships organizers stress. "There's a universal human story here about the challenges people face in

DESDE 1899
NO SMOKING

Peterborough's Hunter Street East shuts down one lane of traffic each summer to allow cafés to set up sidewalk patios.

adapting to a new world and yet retaining the aspects of their culture they find meaningful while creating a better life for their kids," Carter-Edwards says. "Whether it's the Irish in 1825 or the Syrian refugees, they're looking for a new start."

An unexpected bonus for those drawn to Peterborough, Downeyville and other Irish-inflected communities in the area to enjoy this year's events is the pleasure of discovering both the friendly people and gently rolling hills, rivers, lakes and farmland of east central Ontario.

As you drive the back roads, stop at historic cemeteries dating back centuries. Watch for the special signs indicating properties where descendants of the original Peter Robinson settlers still farm. Listen for the fiddle and bodhrán. Although people of many backgrounds live and work in Peterborough and the villages and fertile countryside around it, there's a ribbon of green weaving past and present together wherever you look.

IF YOU GO

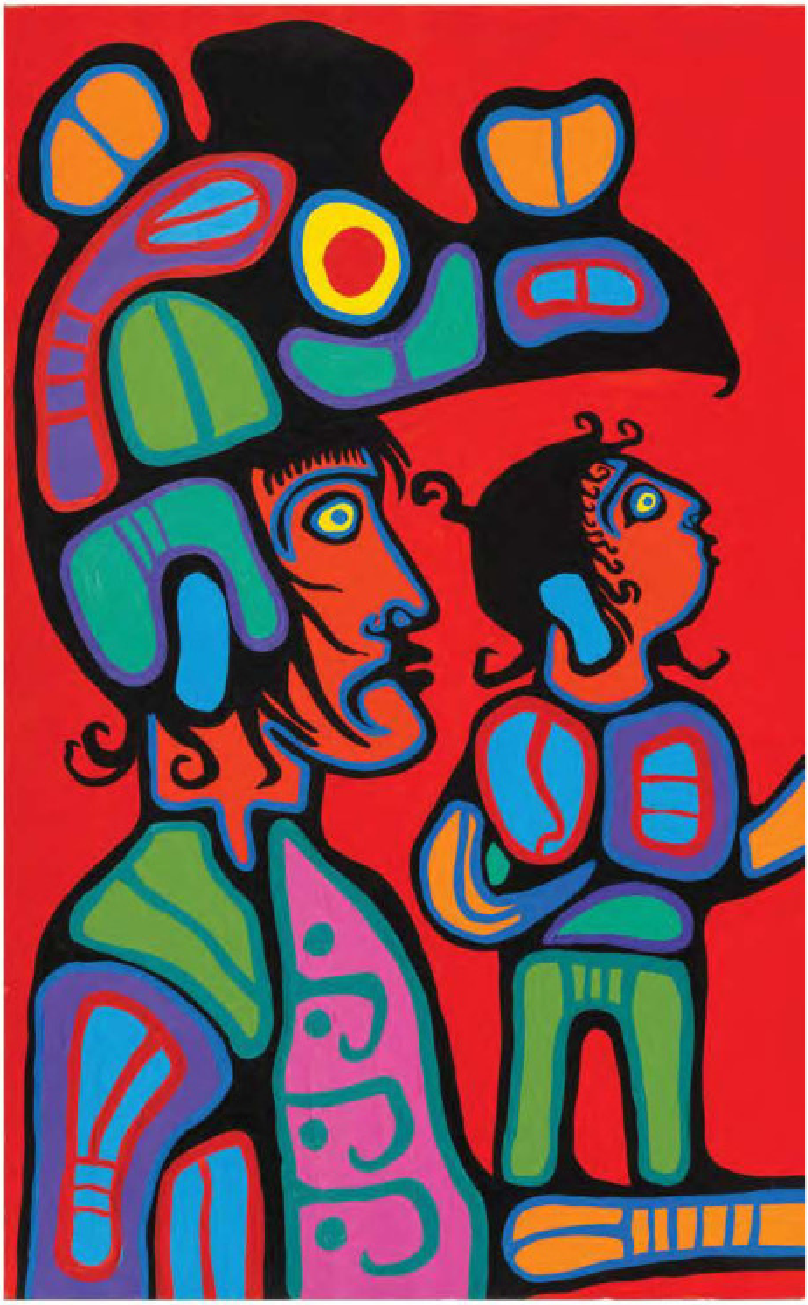
To get a feel for what's in store, sign up for the *Downeyville Times* and Nine Ships e-newsletters (find them at nineships1825.com/newsletter). There is plenty to see and do in the Peterborough area — beyond the numerous Peter Robinson events.

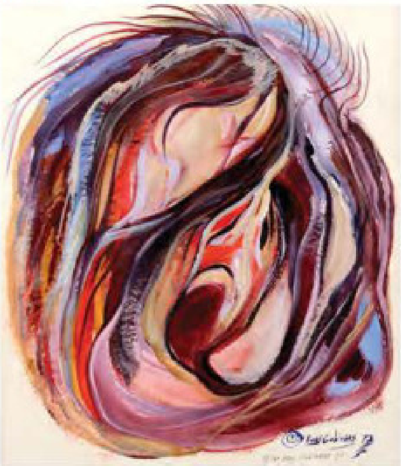
MUSEUMS Besides the standout Canadian Canoe Museum — recently named one of the World's Greatest Places of 2025 by *Time* magazine — the Peterborough Museum and Archives and the local historical society's Hutchison House downtown are also worth visiting. Lang Pioneer Village Museum in nearby Keene highlights Michi Saagiig culture in its Aabnaabin Camp and explores the impact of settlement on local Anishinaabe. Take a picnic to the extensive grounds of the National Historic Site at the 120-year-old Peterborough lift lock on the Trent-Severn Waterway. Watching boats lock through is always fascinating.

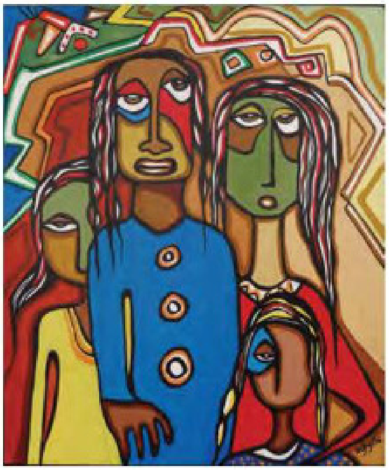
FOOD Hunter Street East's café district is a great place to discover affordable one-of-a-kind restaurants that the city's residents love. Or stroll over to Charlotte Street and snack your way around the Saturday farmers' market. In Downeyville, stop for excellent cupcakes, scones, breakfast sandwiches and more at Brouwer's Bake Shop, but check before you go — like many family-run businesses in the area, it has limited hours.

CULTURE Set aside time to visit Kinomagewapkong, the Teaching Rocks at Petroglyphs Provincial Park. While you're in the Curve Lake First Nation area, be sure to browse the gallery rooms at the Whetung Ojibwa Centre. Want to end on a high note? Check the schedule for free concerts on Wednesdays and Saturdays, all summer long, at Musicfest in Del Crary Park, beside Little Lake, in downtown Peterborough.

PETERBOROUGH DBIA







AT THE MUSEUMS

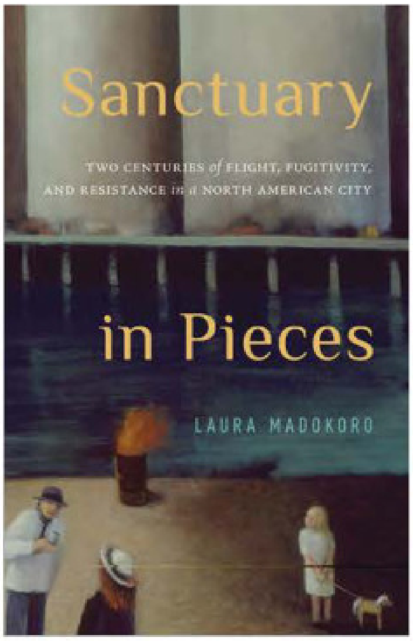
BANFF, ALTA. The Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies is hosting an exhibition that celebrates the groundbreaking work of the Professional Native Indian Artists Inc. (PNIAI), colloquially known as the Indigenous Group of Seven. "*The Ancestors Are Talking: Paintings by the Indigenous Seven* highlights the artistic progress of each member, exploring key developments in their careers, from early sketches to masterworks and public art commissions," explains Joseph Sánchez, curator, acclaimed artist and last living member of the group. The exhibition features works by Daphne Odjig, Alex Janvier, Norval Morrisseau, Carl Ray, Jackson Beardy, Eddy Cobiness and Sánchez himself. The paintings, which have rarely been seen by the public, are works that reflect the artists' collective vision and individual expressions. "This art is revolutionary and remains deeply relevant to the history of Canadian art," says Sánchez. "These works not only reflect the past but continue to resonate with the present and inspire future art practices." The exhibition runs from May 2 to October 19, 2025.

Top: Norval Morrisseau, Attitude and Attention, Punk Rockers, c. 1991, acrylic on canvas, 122 cm x 244 cm.

Bottom left: Eddy Cobiness, Thief, 1973, acrylic on paper, 25 cm x 35 cm.

Bottom right: Daphne Odjig, Family, 1976, acrylic on canvas, 62 cm x 50 cm.

TOP: THE NORVAL MORRISSEAU ESTATE, OFFICIALMORRISSEAU.COM BOTTOM LEFT: COLLECTION OF THE ROMTAGE COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' ART AND ARTIFACTS BOTTOM RIGHT: PRIVATE COLLECTION.


Sanctuary
TWO CENTURIES of FLIGHT, FUGITIVITY, AND RESISTANCE in a NORTH AMERICAN CITY
in Pieces
LAURA MADOKORO

TENUOUS REFUGE

Sanctuary in Pieces: Two Centuries of Flight, Fugitivity, and Resistance in a North American City

by Laura Madokoro
McGill-Queen's University Press,
348 pages, $37.95

With immigration being a particularly hot topic in recent years in Canada, the United States and elsewhere in the world, it would seem that an in-depth look at how one city — Montreal — has handled migrants over the years would be both timely and a helpful addition to the discussion. On several levels, this is true of *Sanctuary in Pieces*, by Carleton University history professor Laura Madokoro.

Her book is essentially a collection of six case studies of a diverse set of individuals and groups who, over the course of about 200 years, sought shelter in Montreal. Madokoro uses each example to explore the political and social landscape in which sanctuary seekers found themselves when choosing the city as a destination.

The use of the words "in pieces" in the title serves to underscore the ways, as the author concludes, that "sanctuary as it has come to operate in the present — in the form of public declaration and high-profile media stories — is broken."

The first case is that of Shadrach Minkins, who escaped enslavement in the United States and braved Canadian winter weather to seek refuge in Montreal in 1851. This leads to a discussion of the Underground Railroad as it functioned in Canada in the wake of the U.S. Fugitive Slave Act.

Madokoro claims that Montreal "was not an especially promising city of refuge in the era of the 'Underground Railroad.' This was partly because of its own history of legalized slavery." Hence, Minkins found it to be a lonely city, if not openly hostile to fugitive slaves.

> Montreal was known as a hotbed of Confederate operatives

The next case study offers an interesting counterpoint to Minkins's experience. John Harrison Surrat, a suspect in the conspiracy to assassinate U.S. President Abraham Lincoln in April 1865, fled to Montreal to escape capture. Madokoro uses Surrat's time in the city to look at attitudes in Montreal, then known as a hotbed of Confederate operatives and sympathizers, toward the U.S. Civil War.

Skipping ahead several decades, Madokoro weaves together the stories of two influential activist women — Yvonne Maisonneuve, founder of a women's shelter in Montreal, and Emma Goldman, the celebrated author, anarchist and feminist who made her home in Montreal and Toronto while exiled from the United States. Through the lives of both women, Madokoro probes the economic and social conditions of the Great Depression in Canada, and particularly in Quebec.

The political upheaval of the 1960s in the United States and in Quebec provides the context for Madokoro's examination of the atmosphere in Montreal at that time — notably the revolutionary threat of the Front de Libération du Québec — that greeted Americans fleeing north to avoid the Vietnam War. This chapter concludes with a brief ironic mention of the Vietnamese refugees who also found sanctuary and a new home in Montreal.

The book's final chapters take their inspiration from incidents that involved people seeking sanctuary in Montreal churches in the wake of political threats in their home countries, including a Chilean group, an Algerian family and an elderly Pakistani woman. These cases offer much fodder for the author's look at Canadian immigration policy as it pertains to refugees.

Madokoro packs quite a boatload of research, documentation and opinion, as well as occasional flashes of wit, into what is essentially a densely academic work published as part of the McGill-Queen's University Press Refugee and Forced Migration Studies series.

Sanctuary in Pieces is not a breezy read for people who aren't engaged with the topic. Some might find Madokoro's insistence on using Indigenous place names repeatedly throughout the book — for example, Montreal/ Mooniyaang/ Tiohtià:ke — to be an unnecessary distraction when a first reference might have sufficed.

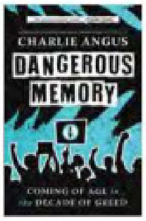
Nonetheless, this book contains much interesting historical information and is likely to be highly useful for people working directly in the field.

Reviewed by **Peter Black**, a freelance writer and former CBC Radio journalist.

PUNK ROCKER TO PATRIOT

Dangerous Memory: Coming of Age in the Decade of Greed

by Charlie Angus
House of Anansi Press,
306 pages, $26.99



New Democrat Member of Parliament Charlie Angus is in danger of becoming Canada's latest online folk hero, but with *Dangerous Memory* he pauses in his current anti-Trump, pro-Canuck campaign to offer readers a personal account of why we need to remember what happened in the 1980s to resist what's happening now.

It's more a biographical sketch than objective history, but the book is loaded with flashbacks to the events of a decade that changed the world. In citing them, Angus is flagging grassroots actions that show how ordinary people made a difference and still can.

An early chapter called "Operation Break the Working Class" highlights the efforts by U.S. President Ronald Reagan, U.K. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney to deconstruct the existing economy and replace it with American economist Milton Friedman's trickle-down system. Friedman's theory held that vast sums of wealth accumulated by corporate CEOs at the top of the capitalist food chain would trickle down to everyone else, obviating the need for social welfare. Angus summarized the result: "Democratically elected governments needed to be limited to the function of providing tax breaks for the wealthy while cutting public spending and stripping regulations."

These and other dangerous memories challenge us to "dig deeper," he argues, to probe the "marginal spaces of the twenty-first century," to see the signs of daily abuse and harassment that are tearing at our social fabric.

As a Catholic kid growing up in suburban Toronto, Angus embraced the views of Dorothy Day, the co-founder of the Catholic Worker Movement, which emphasized justice and charity. Her selfless actions to help the poor and disadvantaged inspired and politicized Angus, setting him on the road to social action in his early 20s.

Angus and his girlfriend Brit Griffin, later his wife, decided to help street people by offering them a temporary place to stay. Thus, Angelus House was born. Unfortunately, while trying to help the homeless, Angus and Griffin ran headlong into the impacts of alcoholism and drug abuse among their new housemates. Crack cocaine, Angus writes, "had poisoned roots in the dirty battles of the Cold War and corporate greed of the 1980s." The people who sought refuge at the house were "the innocent victims of corporate mercenaries." But the lack of boundaries led to interpersonal problems.

Angus also came by his street savvy as a believer in the power of punk. He used his early band, L'étranger (named after Albert Camus's existentialist novel), as a platform for his social criticism. His book doubles as a thumbnail history of the growth of punk rock, with dozens of punk bands profiled as astute observers of wrongheaded government policies, socially inept actions and solutions that were failing to address people's real problems.

The AIDS epidemic and the advent of Gay Pride provide other dangerous memories that illustrate how resistance to perceived wrongs can transform into significant social change. Near the end, a chapter entitled "Operation Race to the Bottom" recalls the free-trade debates and the advent of globalization that paved the road to ruin for many workers. But Angus encourages readers to remember the victories of the past and to "imagine an alternate future."

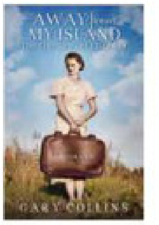
Angus has given us more than a trip down memory lane. The book is a call to arms at an uncertain time. *Dangerous Memory* offers a supportive message to all of us to come together in collective resistance against an attack by forces that are the offspring of a brutal "decade of greed."

Reviewed by writer and historian **Ron Verzuh**.

HARD-WORKING WOMAN

Away from My Island: The True Story of Eliza Gill

by Gary Collins
Flanker Press,
240 pages, $22



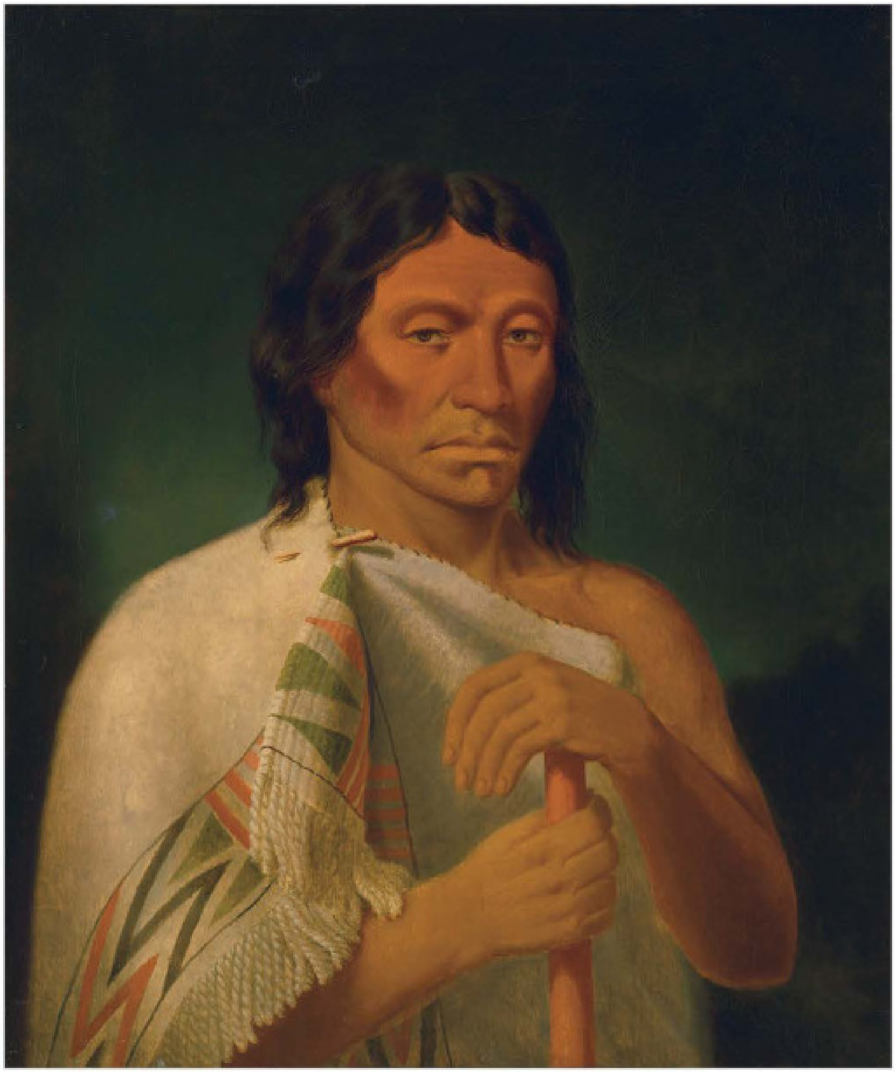
Eliza Gill was not famous. She was an ordinary but strong-willed woman with a limited education from a remote Newfoundland outport. Her life, as recounted in *Away from My Island*, was a struggle from its impoverished beginning to its heroic end. Her options were limited, but she made the best of them and was mostly happy.

Unlike most women in her situation, her story has been written down — and readers will be richer for having read it. They may recognize in Eliza Gill qualities that are similar to those possessed by their mothers, grandmothers or aunties — women who, when faced with a seemingly impossible task, just did it, because "there was no one else" to do it.

Highlights of *Away from My Island* include details of Gill's hard-working childhood, which included a stint as an unpaid cook on a small fishing boat. Born in 1914, Gill married young and moved to Toronto, where she befriended a Holocaust survivor whose horrific stories haunted her for the rest of her life. When Gill's husband became disabled, the family returned to their home province, where Gill scratched out a subsistence living to support them.

Garry Collins, known as the "Story Man" in Newfoundland and Labrador, wrote this book about his mother-in-law because "there was no one else" who was going to write it. He alternates the narrator's voice with Gill's first-person account, producing a text that is factual while including imagined dialogue. This highly readable story is Collins's 16th book.

Reviewed by **Nelle Oosterom**, a frequent contributor to *Canada's History* magazine.



PAUL KANE'S TRAVELS IN INDIGENOUS NORTH AMERICA

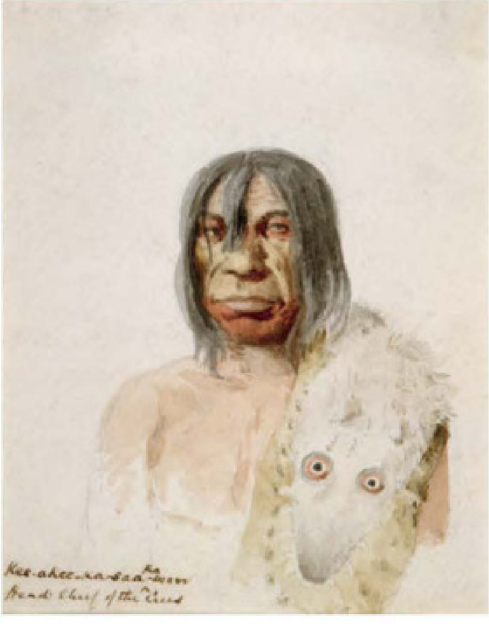
Before the demise of the buffalo and the advent of reserves and residential schools, artist Paul Kane travelled from Toronto to Vancouver Island, sketching First Nations people and their ways of life. He transformed those sketches, made between 1845 and 1848, into oil paintings that altered the original drawings to fit the prejudices of his day, and published them in his ghost-written book *Wanderings of an Artist among the Indians of North America*. Once eulogized, Kane's book has since been eviscerated for its inaccuracies and stereotypes. But his original sketches and field notes provide a valuable and voluminous record of First Nations societies at a time of rapid change.

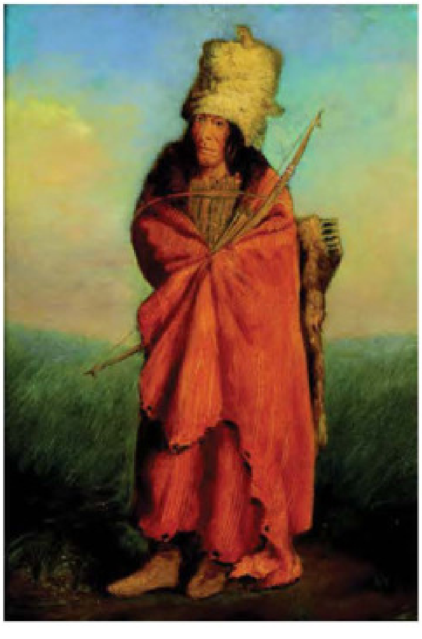
I.S. MacLaren, a professor emeritus of history and English at the University of Alberta, republishes Kane's original artwork and writings – along with extensive background information and scholarly commentary – in his four-volume, 2,424-page opus *Paul Kane's Travels in Indigenous North America*. Besides providing a biographical portrait of the artist, these four tomes make Kane's corpus of work available for study by ethnographers, art historians and First Nations researchers seeking evidence of times past. – *Kate Jaimet*

Above: Paul Kane, "'Chee-ah-clah,' Songhees (Central Coast Salish)," oil on canvas; studio.

Right: Paul Kane, "Kee-akee-ka-saa-ka-wow 'The man that Gives the War Whoop,' Cree Indian, Fort Pitt," watercolour over graphite on paper; finished field sketch.

Far right: Paul Kane, "Us-Koos-Koosish," oil over graphite on paper; finished field sketch.


Kee-akee-ka-saa-ka-wow
Head Chief of the Crees



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SOARING HISTORIES

Battle of Britain: Canadian Airmen in their Finest Hour

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Canada's Air Force: The Royal Canadian Air Force at 100

by David J. Bercuson
University of Toronto Press,
352 pages, $44.95

BATTLE OF BRITAIN
TED BARRIS
CANADA'S AIR FORCE
100

"The ideal age for a fighter pilot in the Battle of Britain was nineteen years. After that you had more sense." So recounted Paul Pitcher, a McGill University graduate who fought in the desperate battle to defend Great Britain following the collapse of France in June 1940.

After that shocking defeat at the hands of Adolf Hitler's German forces, the Luftwaffe dominated the skies over Europe. Opposing them across the English Channel, the Royal Air Force was shot up and depleted, having already lost 959 aircraft in relentless combat. But the "famous few" — airmen from Britain, the Commonwealth and parts of occupied Europe — stood ready to repel the enemy. About 100 Canadians flew in aerial defence, and they are the subject of Ted Barris's fine book.

In his fast-paced *Battle of Britain*, popular military historian Barris draws out the stories of airmen who flew with the "Canada" shoulder flashes. Most were older than 19, but only by a few years, and they learned to fight, survive and kill in the cauldron of combat. While much of the bare bones of this history has been told before, Barris's well-honed knack of drawing out the experiences of airmen and his command of aviation technology, slang and tactics, make for a good read.

The Luftwaffe outnumbered the RAF, but the "Brylcreem boys" — as the fighters were known for their slicked-back hair — were fighting on the defensive, aided by radar that provided early warning and aware that their defeat likely meant a German invasion of the island. The stakes could not have been higher. In day after day of aerial combat, the RAF went head-to-head with the German fighters and bombers. "I reckon the next two months will show which way this war will go," wrote Pilot Officer Duncan Hewitt, the first Canadian casualty of the battle. Hewitt was correct, even if he did not live to see the victory won through blood, sweat and tears.

While Barris focuses on one critical battle in the late summer of 1940, master historian David Bercuson gives us a wide view of 100 years of Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) history in his ambitious *Canada's Air Force*. Bercuson has explored many aspects of the Canadian military history experience in past books. In this one, the University of Calgary professor has produced a commanding history of the RCAF from its origins in the First World War, where thousands of Canadian airmen flew with the British, through the decision to create a national force in 1924, up until the present day.

Bercuson's concise and balanced chapters on the Second World War present the grim fight against Nazi Germany. *Canada's Air Force* provides tremendous insight into the growth of the RAF's Fighter, Coastal and Bomber commands, connecting the Canadian war effort to the international one.

In these chapters — and in the groundbreaking ones that follow, in which he examines Canada's Cold War air force — Bercuson skillfully weaves together topics such as aircraft procurement, shifting strategies and the evolution of air power. This is a history worthy of the RCAF: It includes defence against the Soviet threat in Europe and Canada's Arctic; the sad story of the Avro Arrow; fierce debates over arming Canadian fighters with nuclear weapons; the use of air transport in peacekeeping and humanitarian missions; the path-breaking women who faced down sexism to fly as equals; and post-Cold War air operations in Iraq in 1991, Kosovo in 1999 and Libya in 2011.

In Bercuson's comprehensive study, readers are exposed to detailed examinations of fighters, bombers and other aircraft; budgetary periods of famine and feast; and to the men and women who have served over periods of great change.

The first 100 years of the RCAF saw a continual evolution in technology, tactics and the use of air power in times of war and in holding the peace. The next 100 years will also see unimaginable transformations in the types of technology that might be unleashed in air and space. And yet, in the end, it will still fall to the men and women in the RCAF uniform, albeit aided by advanced computer systems and artificial intelligence, to keep North America safe and to safeguard Canada's national interests abroad.

Reviewed by **Tim Cook**, chief historian and director of research at the Canadian War Museum.

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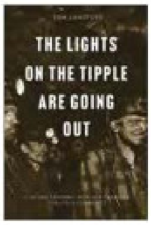
MINERS' MISERY

The Lights on the Tipple Are Going Out: Fighting Economic Ruin in a Canadian Coalfield Community

by Tom Langford
UBC Press, 388 pages, $39.95



When Robert Lilley, a B.C. coal miner, took his own life in 1963, it symbolized the demise of many coal-mining towns in Alberta and British Columbia. Tom Langford documents their slow but relentless decline in this insider's view of the communities that struggled to survive deindustrialization and the move toward cleaner sources of energy.

The Lights on the Tipple Are Going Out is set in the mining communities of the Elk Valley and Crowsnest Past, a Rocky Mountain region at the border of Alberta and B.C. (A tipple is a structure used for loading coal, ore or minerals into railroad cars.)

Lilley, a representative of United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) Local 7310, led the fight against mine closures and lobbied for improved social benefits for miners' families. When he threw himself under a train, Langford writes, it marked the decline of the once-powerful unions in towns like the Elk Valley's Fernie, B.C. It also served as a symbol of the desperation of coal-mining families.

"The decline of coalfield societies has usually proceeded rapidly," writes Langford, "with devastating impacts on miners and their families, local businesses, and the social fabrics of once vibrant localities."

Others also fought for the survival of local livelihoods. Langford credits Thomas Uphill, the mayor and, later, long-serving labour MLA for Fernie, with attempting to improve the lives of thousands of his constituents as mines closed and promises of economic revival proved stillborn. Uphill was often the lone voice in the provincial legislature with his "pointed anti-capitalist speeches" about the harm caused by closures.

Langford's prose spares us having to go down a mine to learn what it means to face unsafe, and sometimes deadly, working conditions. Coupled with the threats to health and safety, such as black lung disease, miners lived with the constant possibility of losing their jobs and their pensions.

With *The Lights on the Tipple Are Going Out*, Langford uses his personal knowledge of the British Columbia municipalities of Fernie and Sparwood, as well as the since-disappeared villages of Michel and Natal, to provide a detailed community history-cum-economic study. In doing so, he reveals places full of working-class pride and union solidarity, while painting a bleak picture of the disintegration of both. The book also delves into the rich labour history of the region, epitomized by the 1932 Crowsnest Pass coal strike. Helpful sidebars on specific labour leaders describe hard-fought battles fuelled by a spirit of resistance to employer abuses and legislative recalcitrance.

The book also reports on the activism of women. Their protests about the pollution of their neighbourhoods, Langford notes, turned "a movement of 'activist mothers'" into "a community movement for environmental justice."

In his conclusion, Langford proposes an ambitious plan to save coal communities from total disintegration. To work, he argues, it will require collaborating with First Nations to move from profit-driven industrial projects to cooperative communities focussed on preserving nature.

Coal was once the energy king that drove all other industries. Today it has increasingly given way to greener sources of power. As a result, Langford's proposal must address a critical issue: how to fairly retrain miners to overcome their history and avoid being bypassed by the clean energy revolution.

In the balance stands the legacy of Robert Lilley.

Reviewed by writer and historian **Ron Verzuh**.

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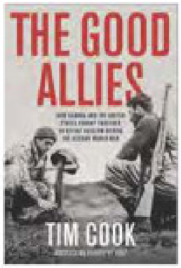

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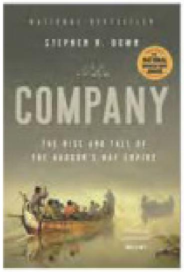

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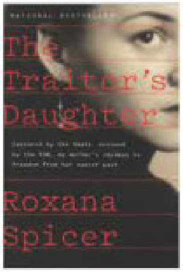

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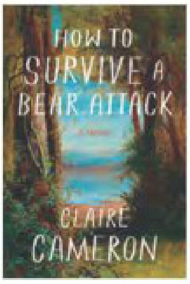

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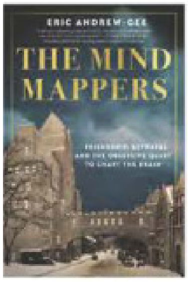

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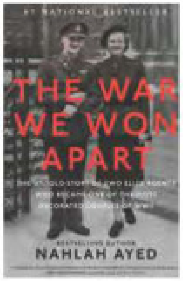

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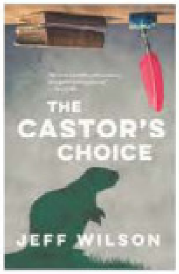

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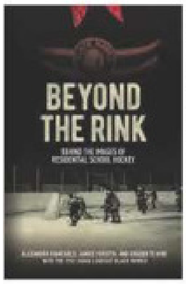

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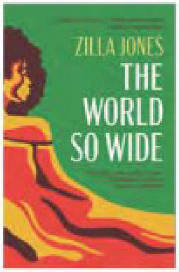

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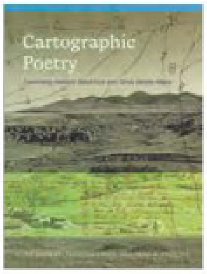

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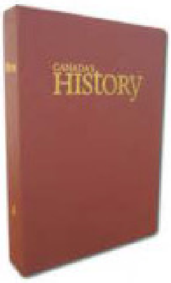

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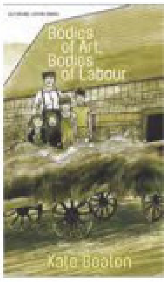

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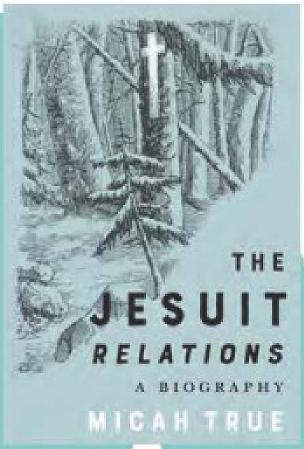
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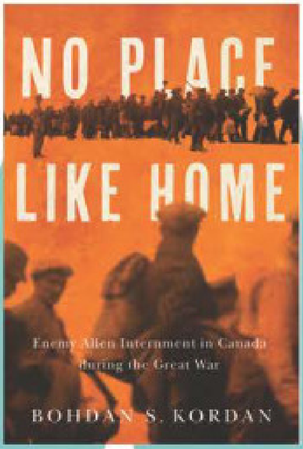
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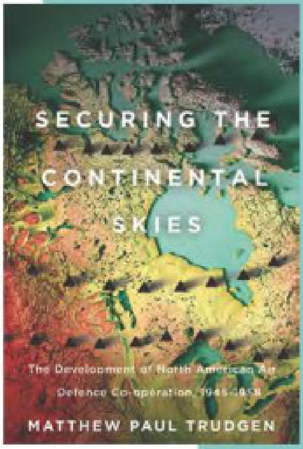
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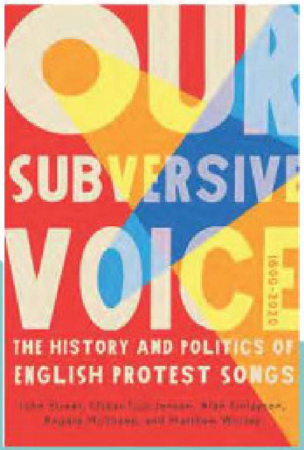
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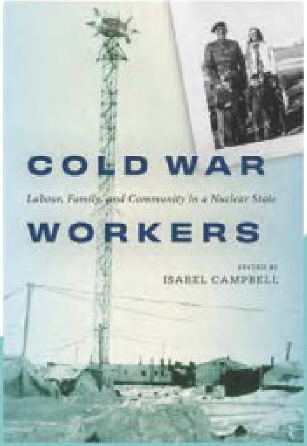
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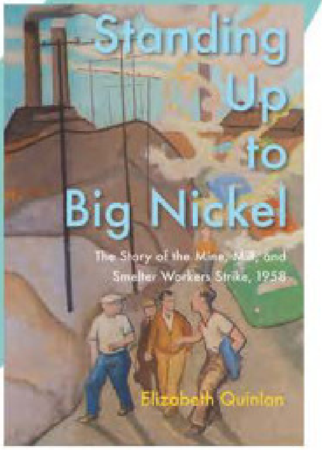
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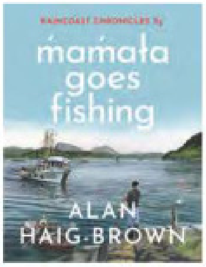

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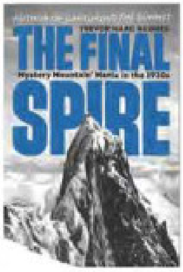

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by Trevor Marc Hughes

In 1934, four mountaineers from Manitoba piled into their Plymouth and pointed its headlights west to Tatlayoko Lake in British Columbia. Their goal? To conquer B.C.'s tallest mountain. But the mountain's central spire is a nightmarish image for any climber: a sheer column of barren rock encased in ice. However, its irresistible allure electrified the public and the race was on.

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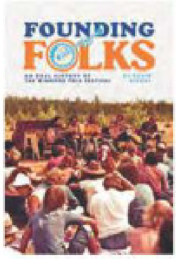

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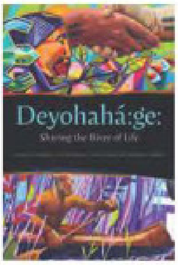

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edited by Daniel Coleman, Ki'en Debicki and Bonnie M. Freeman

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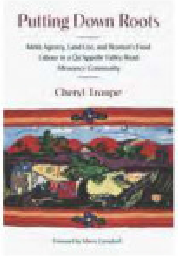

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by Cheryl Troupe

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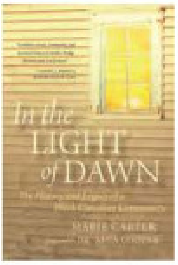

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The History and Legacy of a Black Canadian Community

by Marie Carter

In the Light of Dawn shines a spotlight on the Dawn Settlement, a historic abolitionist community in rural Ontario. Along a 200-year continuum of resistance and contribution, Dawn's history (and that of its residents) intersected with important abolitionist figures like Frederick Douglass and civil rights movement figures like Rosa Parks. Activism from community members resulted in landmark actions such as the challenge to segregation of private businesses and publicly funded schools.

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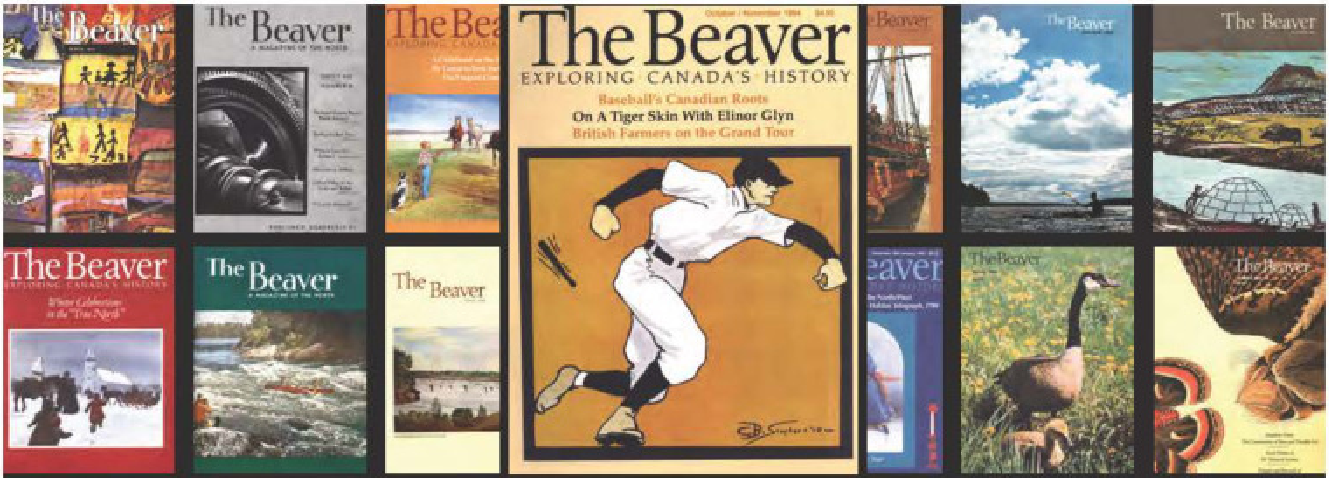
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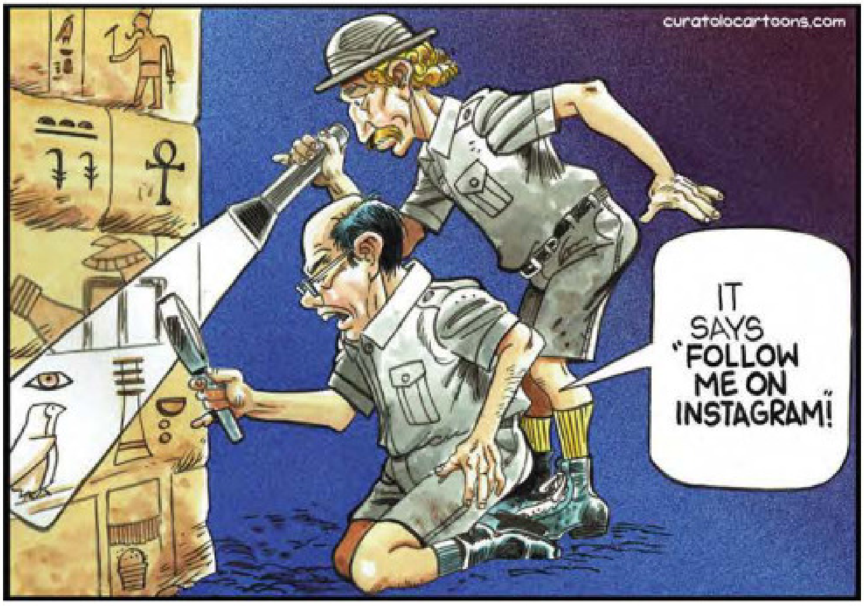
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FRED CURATOLO

Social studies

How to make the most of online genealogy groups. *by Paul Jones*

Last time in this column, we looked at social-media etiquette for genealogists. Now that you know the rules of engagement, here's how to use Facebook, Google Groups, LinkedIn, Reddit and others to further your research.

Joining in. How do you find an online group that can help with your genealogical questions? Simply fire up your search engine with the search term "genealogy groups" and the surname, place or research topic of interest. If you're particularly partial to one platform, just add it to your search term. For example, "Facebook genealogy groups Nova Scotia" turned up half a dozen good suggestions.

Reading old handwriting. Most online genealogy groups are happy to assist researchers trying to decipher semi-legible records. People often ask for help in making out occupations, given names, surnames, place names and causes of death when the script is unfamiliar or the handwriting sloppy. All researchers have had to grapple with comparable paleographic puzzles.

Dating photos. Do you own an old family photograph and have no idea who's in it? A good starting point is to determine the date of the picture. One researcher asked an online group for opinions about a handsome-but-unidentified wedding portrait. Most members believed the fashions were those of the 1910s. Next step for the researcher: identify all weddings in her extended family during this decade.

Exploring unfamiliar sources of information. Even the most experienced researchers turn to expert guidance in online groups when necessary. Military records, uniforms, insignia and medals can seem especially opaque to the layperson. Fortunately, many online military-history enthusiasts are eager to help. The same could be said for the records of jurisdictions, religious denominations or organizations with which you have no experience.

Learning to use technology. Most genealogists use family-tree software; most have also "done" their DNA. Beyond that, though, these folks tend to be neither computer whizzes nor genetic scientists, and can be intimidated by too much theory or technical jargon. When they're stuck, asking for a helping hand from a more experienced user in an online group can make the difference between succeeding and giving up.

Translating foreign records. Here's a tip from Canadian professional genealogist Janice Nickerson. When encountering a document in an unfamiliar language, approach foreign genealogy groups to provide context and translation. For example, a Chilean researcher explained to me that *"por delagación del Señor Arzobispo"* in an 1859 document did not mean "by delegation of the Lord Archbishop," as suggested by Google Translate. Rather, the correct interpretation was "with the permission of the Lord Archbishop."

Tracking down genetic cousins. Perhaps the most exciting use of social media is contacting people who have shown up as genetic matches on a commercial DNA test. These folks are often not responsive to contact through the DNA company; a letter containing photos or a family tree is much more likely to elicit a reply. But how to get a postal address? You can gain enough personal information to make contact and get that address by studying social media profiles of people with the same name or "handle." Facebook and LinkedIn can be particularly informative. Based on the person's social-media handle, examine profiles, photo reels, posts and friends' comments until you find a person who most likely fits.

Placing a digital ad. Finally, there is one use of social media that I'd like to try: targeted online advertising to solicit information. The facts I need to address a problem might be common knowledge among the residents of the village where the mystery arose. Online publicity — analogous to newspaper personal ads of yesteryear — could be the way to go: "Seeking any information about…." How much is a breakthrough worth? I think it's worth finding out.

Paul Jones, a retired publisher, is a writer, a consultant, and an avid genealogist.

ReForest London
I dig trees
plant
water
protect

Kamila Costello takes part in a community tree-planting event with ReForest London, in London, Ont., in June 2022.

COURTESY OF KAMILA COSTELLO

Digging in

The 2025 Nobleman Scholar is passionate about history and community engagement.

by Brooke Campbell

Growing up, Kamila Costello often accompanied her archaeologist mother, Mala Murty, to excavations in St. Catharines, St. Davids and Tavistock, Ont. Getting her hands dirty, spending time with artifacts and visiting historic sites fostered her love of history from a young age. Those hands-on experiences also helped her to see how the past shapes the world today.

Costello, who is a master's student in public history at Western University in London, Ont., applies this perspective to her work, aiming to show how deeply connected the past is to the present and bringing history to life through meaningful storytelling.

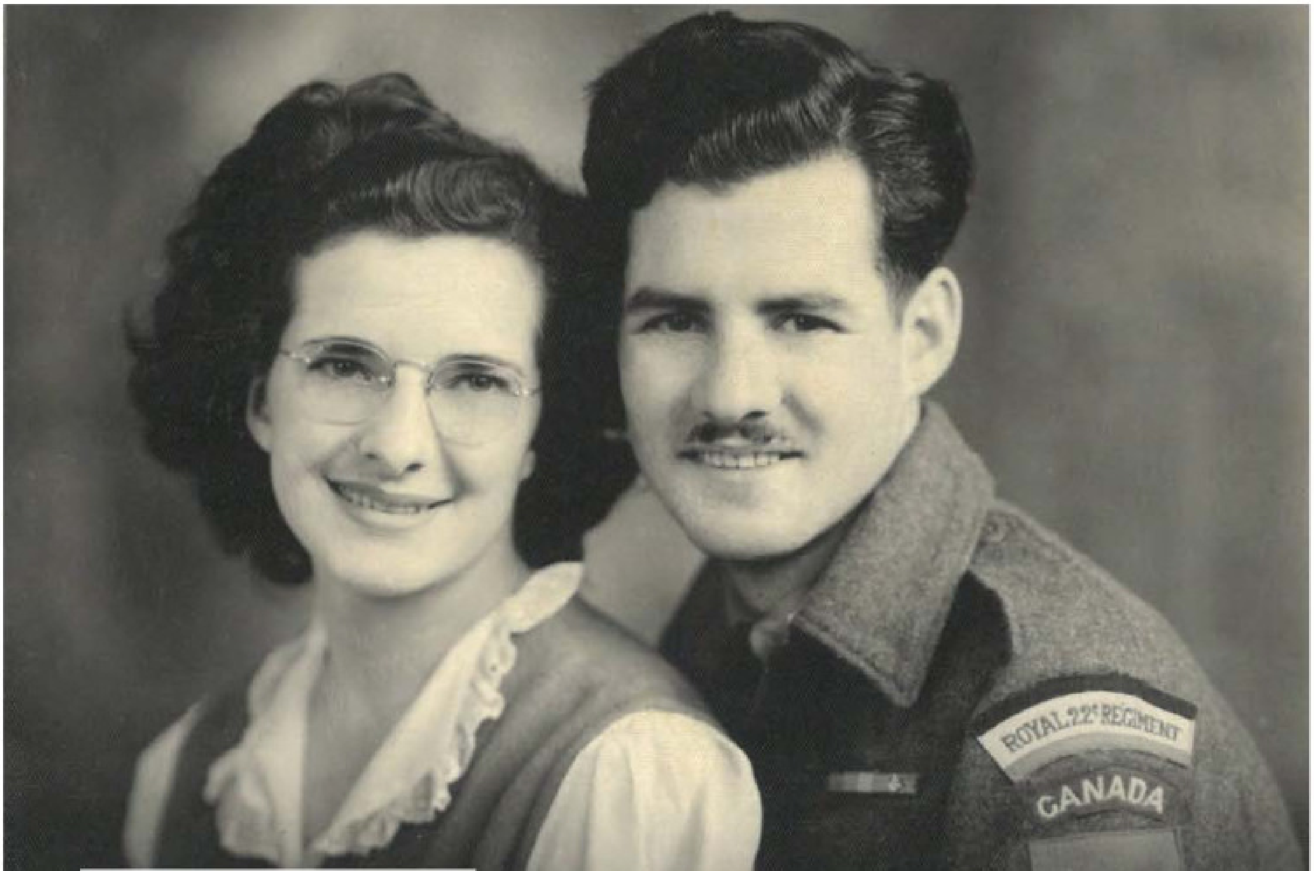
Her dedication to education, historical research and public engagement makes her a natural fit for the Nobleman Scholars program, an annual internship at Canada's History Society for graduate students from Western University. Dorothy Hollingsworth, a Western University alumna, established the endowment program in 2017 to honour her husband, William (Bill) Nobleman, a founding director of Canada's History Society.

"It's exciting to join the legacy of public historians who have come before me," says Costello. "It's an incredible way to begin my career and a reminder of the responsibility that comes with this role."

As a Nobleman Scholar, Costello brings not only her passion for history but also a commitment to fostering connections and sharing multiple perspectives. This inclusive approach stems from Costello's experiences beyond academia. For three years, she worked in the environmental nonprofit sector, engaging her local community on such issues as deforestation and food insecurity. This experience taught her the importance of collaboration and community awareness. In her role with Canada's History Society, Costello will have the opportunity to put these values into action, shaping educational resources that support teachers and students and contributing to programs that respond to the needs of our audiences.

The Nobleman Scholars program is more than just an internship — it's a chance for students to grow as public historians, gaining mentorship and real-world experience. For Costello, this opportunity allows her to develop skills while making meaningful contributions. "I know this is a place where I can learn, contribute and truly make an impact," she says.

Having also grown up with *Canada's History* magazine in her home, Costello says that being selected as this year's Nobleman Scholar holds special significance. "It feels like a full-circle moment," she says. "It is an incredible honour and truly means the world to me."



War correspondents

The top image is an engagement photo of my parents, Félixine Ouimet and Paul Mailhot, taken in August 1945, two years before they were married. My mother, born in Union Point, Man., met my father, born near Gravelbourg, Sask., in 1943 when he was on a three-day leave from training in Shiloh, Man. Wanting to visit his aunt and uncle near Lac du Bonnet, Man., he hiked the last leg through the bush and arrived shivering and with blistered feet. Smitten by the young teacher boarding there (see inset photo, taken in 1943), he asked her to "start a little correspondence game." The letters increased in frequency and affection as he completed training and served 19 months overseas with the Royal 22e Régiment in Italy and Holland. On leave prior to anticipated Pacific service, Dad arrived at the Ouimet farm to visit Mom when he learned of the Japanese surrender on August 15, 1945. Twelve days later, they were engaged. They went on to raise six children and serve as living embodiments of "the greatest generation." Their legacy lives on through their 11 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Submitted by Philippe Mailhot of Winnipeg.

Do you have a black-and-white or colour photograph that captures a moment, important or ordinary, in Canada's history? If so, have it copied (please don't send priceless originals) and mail it to Album, c/o Canada's History, Bryce Hall Main Floor, 515 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9. Or email your photo to album@CanadasHistory.ca. Please provide a brief description of the photo, including its date and location, details about people appearing in the photograph, and further information about the event or situation illustrated. Photos may be adjusted for presentation in the magazine.

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